

Libraries

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The Gentle Reader¹

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These discursive remarks follow an effort made after going over the well beaten track of library endeavor, minded to pick up some possibly overlooked threads of our work—overlooked not in deed but in word, something perhaps too matter-of-course to be dwelt upon very seriously. One meets with such completeness of discussion of the more important library subjects. There is Adult Education, the keynote and aim of library endeavor for the past three years. Adult Education, the swing of the pendulum back to earlier ideas of the library as the "people's university" only that now, our pendulum has a longer rod and our clock is happily much larger. We found that with our work with the schools, with the children, with the story hour, in our efforts to do our library part toward producing good citizens, we were forgetting the citizen himself when he should have arrived. With the present systematic drive for adult education, that phase is past and the movement certainly needs no impetus from me. One by-product of the drive, however, I should like to mention. This move for adult education has done more to advertise our libraries and that in a general, not technical way, than any other concerted publicity we have ever had. For one thing, it appeals to that instinct, in-

nate in every soul, to advise the other person of the thing that is for that other person's best good.

How, however, about the citizen, the library patron who does not read with a purpose, who has not the slightest intention of reading with any purpose whatsoever, either his own or one provided by the A. L. A.? Roughly and conservatively speaking, this citizen must be responsible for more than half of the book circulation of which we are so proud and for which we work so hard.

So I gave over my original plan of writing on some subject entirely outside library affairs, some subject of which I should know absolutely nothing, but on which I should have many ideas. This situation seemed to me ideal for a scintillating and interesting production—as instanced by Mr Mencken's article on libraries in the June *American Mercury*. By the way, that too was a pretty good piece of publicity. And I have decided to devote to the rather submerged half of our library patrons these minutes allotted to the president. What rights have they that a librarian is bound to respect? From the point of view of good salesmanship, if no other, this is an angle to be considered.

Our business is books, as one of our directors remarked when we were planning the program for this meeting, and books are our stock in trade. So in this con-

¹Address before the P. N. W. L. A. at Vancouver, B. C., August 30, 1928.

nection, a little discussion of some of the literary tendencies of the day might not be amiss, keeping in view always this purposeless library patron. Browsers, fiction readers, newspaper readers, seem to about cover the ground.

Our browsers are the most interesting class. They get so much out of the library, in every sense of the word, including I fear, an occasional permanent removal. The open shelves are a joy to him, a casual chair off by itself a haven, a port in a storm. There he loves to make his own discoveries, sometimes to pass them on with all the enthusiasm of the "first to burst into that unknown sea;" sometimes simply to add them to treasures already found. For our browser may (or may not) be what one might call a "cultured" person, while our reader with a purpose is more likely to be a "cultivated" person.

Paul Shorey, in an article in the May *Atlantic*, blames the library open shelves, along with other agencies, for the deterioration in the reading of young people. He says, "the tyranny of present fashion prevents our young people from giving the good older literature that has survived, and by which they might profit, a chance. The fault is not theirs; it is in the teachers, the reference shelves in their courses, the open shelves of the public library." This might apply especially to our browsers, so when Mr Shorey followed this statement with examples of older books which covered the same ground in a better way than certain newer books that he also mentioned, it seemed in order to look up these books on the aforesaid open shelves. The old books were all there, placid and undisturbed in dingy covers and with so generally an unattractive make-up that only the most purposeful readers would attack them. The new books mentioned were available only in the catalog. Mr Shorey had made his point. How about rebinding some of these interesting older books in this gorgeous new cloth that the binders are showing us? Brown bread, you know, needs more butter. Would John Stuart Mill, John Morley (not Christopher) and Matthew Arnold turn in their places

under the sod at finding themselves thus bedecked?

Even so, have not we, on our side of the sod, had to do considerable turning the past few years, all to our good, no doubt? Our browser, however, is more apt to have his attention caught by later books, travel, biography, just at present probably current politics, or he may even accidentally find himself next the poetry shelf. In all these lines, I think, we may find new books which will stand up well against the older books so ably defended and suggested by Mr Shorey. The comparisons following are not in any case those of Professor Shorey, which were along much more learned and important lines. These are the books we may offer the reader without purpose.

In travel, the W. H. Hudson books have much the same illusive charm that fascinated the youthful reader of Loti's *Into Morocco*. For style, variety, interest and incidentally, information, packed into two volumes, one can hardly find a comparison for Gertrude Bell's letters. They deserve a more attractive dress than the publisher has given them. One might think in their connection of *Arabia Deserta* were it not for Miss Bell's occasional lapses from Arab politics, architecture and archaeology, to frantic appeals in her letters home for new gowns, especially for the evening variety. To imagine Miss Bell in full evening attire partaking of her after dinner-coffee from a silver service, in the midst of an Arabian desert, gives a human touch which would be beyond consideration by the scientific mind, but which rather endears her to our average reader.

Halliburton and Streeter have given us a new angle on travel, where hardships are jokes, adventures are many and statistics are nil. But they somehow manage to give us an atmosphere as well as amusement, good for our browsers.

Then there is the ever popular field of biography including the "fictional biography" somewhat in disrepute with librarians and critics. I like it. It gives us a live man instead of a series of carefully documented facts. Take Maurois' recent life of Disraeli for an example. What if he did get much of his material from

Moneypenny's stupendous six volume work? (I don't know that he did—it only would seem superfluous to look elsewhere.) Moneypenny has given us every possible obtainable fact about Disraeli. Maurois has given us a man, understandable, human, vivid. George Arliss the actor, whose stage delineation of Disraeli is a classic, says that from only one other source, that a tiny collection of personal letters from Disraeli to his sister, has he found so consistent a picture of the real man as in Maurois. And where in Moneypenny will you find anything like this summing up in Maurois? "Disraeli—a saint? No—Disraeli was very far from being a saint. But perhaps some old spirit of Spring, ever vanquished and ever alive, and a symbol of what can be accomplished in a cold and hostile universe by a long youthfulness of heart." This is, as I said, but an example of the many biographies which try to show us the man, not tell us about him. When the writer has a touch of genius the result is well worth the time of our browser.

And in poetry—among the various books of verse which our critical browser might enjoy, have we not Robinson's *Tristram*? Since Malory's old tale, Tennyson, Matthew Arnold, and lately Masefield, have all tried their hands at turning into verse or poetic drama the old story of *Tristram and Iseult*. None, to my mind, equals in dignity, in passion and in sheer beauty of blank verse, the version of Robinson. Very far removed from this, but an interesting phase nevertheless, is Dorothy Parker's *Sunset Gun*, cynically clever little bits of human touches.

Then too, our browser might come across in his wanderings, Phelps' tiny book on Happiness or Fosdick's little brochure called *Spiritual values and eternal life*, one angle on that subject, ever interesting, ever vital to the thoughtful person—immortality. Or again, he might find Alexander's *Thought control* in every-day life, preëminently for the casual reader, not for the student of psychology.

So altogether our browser might not be led very far astray among our "open

shelves" in these his favorite haunts, even among the newer books.

And now about the "fiction readers"—to return to Mr Mencken's article, it sometimes gives us a shrewd knock, sometimes makes us fairly snort with rage, and sometimes, as when he remarks that library work "involves little labor and that of a highly genteel character" one simply heaves a weary sigh. This coincides so exactly with the view taken by the public at large, and by a considerable percentage of library applicants. Mr Mencken would, I am quite sure, be deeply mortified at finding himself in agreement with so large a number. For I am firmly convinced that even Mr Mencken's circulatory system works in exactly the contrary direction from that of the ordinary man. A part, however, of what he has to say about our attitude toward fiction is wholly sensible. We ought not to be too superior over fiction reading. For one thing, a large percentage of world classics is made up of fiction—of fiction and of drama, the latter a story in another form. And often too, the fiction reader gets his only outlook on other countries and other customs from this reading; almost invariably correct impressions too. We librarians who frequently have the honor of working with budding authors, know how very, very careful and technical over their atmosphere are the most unassuming of them. (Someone says here "How about the Bridge of San Luis Rey?" But that is another story.) But when Mr Mencken lets loose his sarcasms because in our treatment of fiction we do not differentiate, for instance, between Conrad and Harold Bell Wright, he misses one of our strong points. Our browser in looking for Cullum may find Clifford's *Further side of Silence*; in looking for Wright may come across Walpole or Francis Brett Young, all to his joy and edification. And let us not be too haughty about detective and mystery stories. When Lord Charnwood, he of the Lincoln biography fame, and Eden Phillpotts write them, and our learned judges and statesmen, along with us lesser lights, read them, we must realize that they have a place. They are a re-

lief to the average reader (and this paper you remember is all about that ever present personage) from the problem and sex novel—sophisticated is this year's word, for them I believe. Speaking of the year's word, for some time I have noticed, as no doubt you have noticed, that each year seems to have its favorite word. You remember when one never mentioned any subject, abstruse, scientific or frivolous without referring to its "psychology." The next year we all "reacted" on every occasion or had a "reaction" to each event. Next we "gestured." "Gesture" was worked almost to the point of saturation as verb, adjective and noun. Even the *Atlantic Monthly* "gestured." This year I hesitate between "sophisticated" and "devastating." The choice is yours to apply above.

Then there is the novel written for the young girl picturing life the like of which never was on land or on sea. Worthy, I think, of a rubber stamp for comment on this class of book were the last words of a little *critique* I came across the other day of a French novel for the *jeune fille*, "and all ends well, tho not entirely convincingly." Rarely, however, these days do these books fall into the hands for which they are so carefully prepared, but are read largely by elderly gentlemen with delight and appreciation. Our young people are reading avidly of whatever they think means life. Fortunate are the ones who find Walpole and Galsworthy before The American tragedy and Sherwood Anderson.

And now the newspaper readers.

Why are they viewed with such disdain and treated with such contumely? Some libraries seem to look upon them as the Cheerful Cherub looks on mosquitoes.

God made the stars
Hung skies for us
And singing trees and hills and lakes.
Of course He made

Mosquitoes too
But everybody makes mistakes.

We are all, like Mr Rogers, quite dependent on the daily press. Why should those unfortunates who come to the library for their newspapers be obliged to read them in positions variously selected by different libraries, the one requisite being that comfort shall be precluded? Why should they be presided over by a supercilious youth, who gleefully snatches the paper from one to pass it on to another at stated and minute intervals?

When I hear it said that newspaper rooms encourage loafers, I think (and sometimes say in a low tone of voice) that one of the things a public library can do for the city in return for the city's support, is to provide a respectable and comfortable place where men out of work, or even men not working, may spend their time, and keep out of mischief.

And so my word today is simply a suggestion for a little special consideration for our gentle reader, browser, fiction fan or newspaper reader, as he may be; in other words for the man in the street. He helps build our statistics, he pays for our books, and finally he reads them; surely excuse enough for thinking of him, even perhaps for writing about him. In one of Frank Swinnerton's delightful essays he says, "nine out of every ten people improve on acquaintance—nine out of every ten—but suppose oneself should be the tenth?" May we not paraphrase this? Nine out of every ten libraries improve on acquaintance, become friends, not mere institutions. But suppose one's own library should be the tenth? On the other hand, when this responsibility of handing out the appropriate book to the world at large begins to weigh a little heavily, I like to think of what old Montaigne says: "We may be learned by other men's learning. Sure I am, we can never be wise but by our own wisdom."

Old Books With New¹

Dorothy E. Newton, Public library, Los Angeles, Cal.

Using old books with new is the fine art of librarianship! The possibilities of substitution, of suggesting other titles when best sellers are out are legion. The satisfaction that comes from having a patron take Mason's *Four feathers* when he came for Wren's *Beau Geste* or Gale's *Birth* instead of Bromfield's *Green bay tree* and the knowledge that he will be as well pleased when he reads it, that satisfaction is very definite. It is a creative action and its practice keeps the mind elastic and the patron contented, provided it is actuated by a desire to help, not to elevate. The taxpayer does not pay for the improvement except in the case of his children, but if we can send him away satisfied with another book, when that which he wants is not in, and the substituted title has more literary merit or more constructive value, then the game is worth the candle.

Indirectly we all do this, but the temptation to confine our substitution to easier fields such as detective and mystery stories is very great. The tendency is to give Doyle's *Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* for Benson's *Canary murder*, for instance, forgetting the many lovers of Jeffery Farnol who might find his literary master, George Borrow, of interest. For Farnol's heroes, who all eventually find their way out onto the broad highway in search of adventure and sustenance, are direct derivatives of Lavengro.

There will be readers, mostly women, who will insist upon having only new books. If everyone is reading Erskine's *Adam and Eve*, they want *Adam*; Helen of Troy is ancient history. But, if by any chance Maurois' splendid new biography of Disraeli is in, they may take it and find unexpected stimuli in the portrait of the famous statesman who was "determined to be great in spite of all weakness, all failure, and all difficulty."

¹Presented at meeting of C. L. A. at Mission Inn, Riverside, Cal., April 5, 1928.

Some years ago it was not possible to suggest even the most popular non-fiction to these readers, but the delightful story about Ludwig's Napoleon illustrates the biographical and historical possibilities today. Two club women, of the type only recently interested in reading, were discussing books. One said, "Have you read that fascinating story of a man named Napoleon by a man named Ludwig?"

"Yes," answered the other, "Isn't it the most thrilling book?"

"Have you reached the part where Napoleon divorces Josephine?"

"Oh, don't tell me the story! Don't tell me the story!"

Sometimes the use of old books with new means a decided advance. At the readers' adviser's desk, we have led H. Rider Haggard fans to Ganpat, from Ganpat to Hervey, and from Hervey's fiction to his non-fiction, *King Cobra* for instance—real progress! In the same way readers of adventure may be introduced to Vandercook's *Black Majesty*, a flash of history as engrossing as any novel. Against a background of dark shadows, glowing camp fires, sweating bodies, and beating tom toms, Vandercook tells the story of Christophe, slave, emperor and builder of the magnificent palace of Sans Soucis, who tried to unite his people and give pride to the black races of Haiti. In the description of his death, of the golden bullet sent crashing thru his heart when power failed him, of his hasty burial in the lime kiln from which his mighty fist rose, clenched defiantly even in death, you are reminded of O'Neill's *Emperor Jones*, only here *Emperor Jones* is translated into real power and real majesty.

With a vocabulary, discretion, and a mind for comparisons, you are prepared for amusement even on the busiest afternoons: the vocabulary to make your books justly attractive, since this is no scheme to circulate dull books but rather the art of bringing to light neglected

ones of real interest and worth; discretion to prevent a strain on your reader's sense of humor; and the ability to visualize the particular qualities of a book which appeal to your patron. For instance, many young people have heard of Halliburton's Royal road to romance and are attracted by its carefree, adventurous tone. The book is seldom in, but they might readily be interested in Ley's *After you, Magellan!* the travel record of two college boys who raced one another around the world following the route Magellan took and having adventures as lively as those of Halliburton if less daring.

Granted that substitutions can be made, some books group themselves, the old with the new, the one calling forth the other. There is the matter of the diary. When that entertaining old rascal, Samuel Pepys, walked out of the month of June, 1669, into Fagen's play, *And so to bed!* he made it his own, so much his own that few readers of this amusing period comedy will be able to resist finding out more about him. There he is, with one eye on the king's business and the other twinkling at every pretty woman. There is the Pepys who, on New Year's Eve, wrote seriously, "Home and at my office until twelve at night making my solemn vowes for next yeare, which I trust in the Lord I shall be able to keep, but I fear I have a little too severely bound myself in some things and in too many for I fear I may forget some. But however I know the worst and shall by the blessings of God observe to perform or pay my forfeits punctually. So home and to bed." Mr Fagen has caught the spirit of the diary in these supposed happenings of a day and a night: in the quarrelling of the servants, the delicious rescue of Mrs Knight, and the call which Pepys subsequently made upon her, his flageolet under his arm and a score of compliments on his tongue. The fact that he is forced to hide all the time in a chest while the King and, later, Mrs Pepys calls, adds to the merriment. The play and the novel by Brunner, *My wife, poor wretch*, with the wretch proving witty and pretty, will create patrons eager for

the diary and the diary will hold them fast. Incidentally there is no other character in literature like Pepys unless it be Sir John Falstaff. *Henry IV, Part I*, is worth rereading and recommending for Falstaff and the Gadshill robbery alone—the great laughter ringing thru it is worth all the 1817's ever cataloged.

In the same way, those two splendid sagas of the prairie, Rolvaag's *Giants in the earth* and Bojer's *The Emigrants* may be used together. Altho written about the same time, Bojer's book was translated into English some time ago and Rolvaag's has just been received. Written by men of great ability, dealing with one of the most characteristic episodes of American history, the settling of the Dakota plains, both are the work of Norwegians whose art is typically European. Rolvaag lived his story, but Bojer drew his from the richness of his imagination. Bojer's style is simpler and perhaps therefore more in keeping with his subject, but the creation of such characters as Per Hansa and such descriptive passages as that of the coming of the locust plague make Rolvaag's work very fine indeed, one of the finest of pioneer sagas.

For this reader, too, is Jenson's American saga, with its great zest for life, the autobiography of an emigrant who fought his way upward just as surely as the brave people of Bojer and Rolvaag struggled for life against the jealous elements.

With reserves coming in every day for T. E. Lawrence's *Revolt in the desert* and with Thomas' more popular account, *With Lawrence in Arabia* seldom on the shelf, we are fortunate to have Doughty's *Arabia Deserta* and the Letters of Gertrude Bell. Doughty's great classic we all know, defying as it does classification in being great in every field. Gertrude Bell's letters, too, turn the grey desert sands into a romantic, colorful pool of astonishing adventure, the more astonishing since she was a woman. Her work in Arabia is beyond estimation. A delightful cartoon of Gertrude at an Oriental party was followed by,

From Trebizon to Tripolis
She rolls the pashas flat

And tells them what to think of this
And what to think of that.

Perhaps the secret of her remarkable work is to be found in the letter to her father which contains the following sentence: "O father dearest, don't I have a fine time? I'm only overcome by the sense of how much better it is than I deserve"—this from a woman who spent days and nights riding thru burning deserts and raging rivers.

Anyone interested in Tomlinson's first novel, Gallions reach, would find Conrad stimulating and is entitled to know him. Some of his shorter things are even better for the average reader than such accepted masterpieces as *Lord Jim* or *Nostromo*. The Shadow line is an interesting novel to use with Gallions reach. Neither one is properly a novel, but rather a long short story, a psychological character study of a young man on the shadow line where the region of early youth must soon be left behind. Both Jim Colet and Conrad's hero, a sea captain, in a sudden fit of restlessness leave behind the work which has been physically sustaining them but mentally leaving them dissatisfied, and start off (one as a result of his fist and the other at the council of a housemate) to find new life. In different ways they are both successful. These novels recall Conrad's autobiography, *A Personal record*, and his comment on literature, "Only in men's imagination does every truth find an effective and undeniable existence. Imagination, not invention, is the supreme master of life as of art."

In introducing John Erskine last week, Dr Von Kleinsmid told a story which serves as a delightful preface to biography, new and old. A man at a formal dinner party was endeavoring to be polite to the lady beside him and asked,

Do you know the Kentucky Cardinal?
I do not number clerics among my
acquaintance!

But he's a bird!

I am not interested in his private life!

However that may be, most of us are. Fictional biography offers a splendid opportunity for introducing readers to such fine things as Browne's *That man, Heine!*, Scott's *Portrait of Zelide*,

Burke's *Wind and the rain*. This last book is also an excellent title to suggest when Burke's novels are out for it is far more interesting than fiction and old Quong Lee with his skull cap tasseled with devil chasers is more real than any of the characters who people Limehouse nights.

Two of my favorite autobiographies are old, yet few readers to whom I have suggested them have failed to find them delightful. One, *The Private papers of Henry Ryecroft*, by George Gissing is for bookish people and those who enjoy essays. It has no thrills but is filled instead with the quiet comments of a man for whom a small cottage in the country, a glowing hearth fire and a box of books are the most desirable of rewards after a life which has been filled with cold, poverty and physical weariness.

The other came out of the turn of the last century: *The Days of my youth* by James Baldwin, the life of a delightful Quaker family in the middle ages of the middle west, when roads, farms, fences and clearings were just emerging from the embryo state, the days of the Civil War and the first matches. It is an unspoiled narrative of Robert and his imaginary playmate, Inviz, born of his loneliness. His first book, bought by his goodly Quaker father on a rare trip to town, was *Robinson Crusoe*. It was the subject of the following conversation between his father and mother.

"Stephen," she asked, "Is thee right sure that this is a good book for Robert to read?"

"O yes," answered father, "I made sure of that before I bought it. The storekeeper told me that it is the best book in the world for boys. But I didn't take his word for it. I read several pages and found Robinson's account of his adventures very instructive and truthful."

"What makes thee think it's truthful?"

"Why the man tells what he himself saw and did; and he tells it in such a plain, straight forward way that thee can't help but believe it."

"Was Robinson a Friend?" asked Aunt Rachel.

"No, I think not," said father.

"Well," remarked my mother, "If thee believes that this is a really good and safe book, I am glad thee bought it. But I do hope he will never get to readin' silly story books that have no truth or sense in 'em."

It is a biography which will appeal to many people for different reasons: to the readers of Hamlin Garland, to those who find the simple lives of the Friends full of pleasant things and to all who really enjoy the lives of men and women.

One more biography! For the father brought up on Alger and demanding him for his son, there has lately been published Maye's life of Alger, with end papers which should prove priceless to the librarian. They comprise a map of the Alger country. One corner contains the blacking box bought for the deserving city boy by the benevolent westerner; in another the skinny, unhappy cow owned by the mean deacon's honest tenant looks reproachfully over the fence at the fat cow owned by the mean deacon; on a short lived river the sister of a newsboy is kidnapped by her drunken father. The seriousness of the biography itself is a delightful commentary on the age which demanded Alger and I doubt whether the average father will continue to insist upon him when he has finished it.

For the reader of old books who refuses to admit without proof that anyone can write novels worth reading today, there are at least two excellent suggestions: *The Bridge of San Luis Rey* and *Death comes for the archbishop*. Thornton Wilder's novel seems to have withstood all the ailments which attack critics such as toothaches and bad breakfasts and to have been universally acclaimed a classic. In a style as simple and as flexible as that which marks the tragic progress of Wharton's *Ethan Frome* or the ironic revelations of Cather's *Lost lady*, Wilder tells of the falling of the great osier bridge. With it fall five people; that grotesque, unwise, unloved old woman, the Marquesa de Montemayor, who became the greatest letter writer of the age in an effort to amuse her daughter; lonely little Peopita who brought the richness of her own brave soul to the Marquesa; Esteban who could not longer endure life after the death of his twin brother; Uncle Pio who adored all beautiful women and especially La Perichole; and La Perichole's small son, Don Jaime.

Father Juniper regarded the falling of the bridge of these five as an example of the wisdom of God and the logic of human life.

For this reader is Willa Cather's *Death comes for the archbishop*, a series of brilliant, romantic pictures, a broad band of richly brocaded stuff woven on the loom of history, lacking plot but filled with story, the story of Father Latour, archbishop of New Mexico who, after forty years of good work, "died of having lived."

On the other hand, those who have read only current literature need the strengthening, tempering influence of the old. They need Hardy's *Return of the native*, Meredith's *Ordeal of Richard Feverel*, Galsworthy's *Forsythe Saga*, Fielding's *Tom Jones*, Butler's *Way of all flesh*, Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina*, Austin's *Pride and prejudice* and countless others.

Speaking of great novels, it is really too bad that we seldom recommend *Great expectations*. It is one of Dickens' most unified and shortest novels and is free from the sentimentality, fainting women and gallons of tears which characterize most of his better known works.

Harrison Ainsworth still has a corner on chills; not even the most hair raising modern historical novels can approach his *Tower of London*. It is full of secret dungeons, hidden passages, mysterious intrigues and the tragic story of Lady Jane Grey who went so bravely to the scaffold. It is an old novel which truly lifts you from this world. So, for that matter, is Emily Bronte's *Wuthering heights*, that strange novel twisted from the lonesome, windy heaths.

The great demand for pirate and extravagant adventure stories is an admirable excuse for introducing an old book which should see the midnight candle burned at both ends. Five or six years ago, the members of the Marine Research Society took a holiday and in place of a technical monograph published a reprint of a book originally published in 1837 entitled *The Pirates' own book*, or *Authentic narratives of the lives, exploits, and executions of the most cele-*

brated sea robbers. The frontispiece depicts a man in striped trousers stepping from the gang plank into the sea after the fashion of a miracle. The contemporary woodcut has given him a somewhat surprised rather than alarmed look as intriguing to the reader as is the dashing figure of Alwilda, the female pirate. The accounts themselves, in the words of one of the narrators, "will be found more interesting than all the tales and sketches furnished in the annuals and magazines and other vehicles of invention, from the simple fact—that it is truth, not fiction." There, by the great horn spoon, is a book!

Suggestions crowd in in great numbers when you think of the possibilities of old books with new—tho they are apt

to depart when needed. There is Selma Lagerlof's new book, *The General's ring* for readers of ghost stories, Hardy's *Queen of Cornwall* for *Robinson's Tristram* and so on.

If the attempt is not always successful, it is an ideal worth reading and thinking towards, and once in a while it can be accomplished very wittily as it was in the history department of the Los Angeles public library not very long ago.

"I wish a book called *Cocktail Continental*," said the patron.

The attendant (returning from the shelves with Robert's Europe's morning after) answered, "The cocktail is gone, but here is the hang over."

And that is the fine art of substitution!

Eliminating the Undesirable in Modern Fiction¹

Augusta M. Starr, librarian, Hosmer branch library, Minneapolis, Minn.

Book selection is one of the most delightful duties of the librarian. Who does not enjoy spending money? What can be more charming than to spend money on new books? As we read the fiery word pictures of the publishers, and see the glowing book jackets, we are filled with enthusiasm. Each new book is "the book of the century." We must have each one, or our library is lost. We burn to buy all the most sophisticated, highbrow books that we may impress people with our erudition; but we are stayed by the gorgeous thought of turning all our money into fifty cent pieces, and buying a thousand copies of Zane Grey and Ethel M. Dell, filling our shelves and swelling our circulation statistics. We are torn between the two extremes. What shall we do? How shall we attain that golden mean advised by the Roman poet?

Est modus in rebus, sunt certe denique fines quos ultra citraque nequit consistere rectum.

Shall we translate it thus:

There is a mean in all things; and, moreover, certain limits on either side of which right cannot be found.

How, then, shall we best spend our money for modern fiction? Can we depend upon the publishers' blurbs? Alas, the most worthless book is sometimes most widely advertised. There is material for an amusing essay on the contrast between publishers' announcements of sixty or seventy years ago, and those of today, but as Mr. Kipling says, "that is another story."

Would you say the first consideration was the general type of readers to be served in your library? As one house-keeper says, "I never buy tomatoes. My family won't eat them;" and another says, "My husband has to have two eggs every morning of the world." So, we must learn to consider the taste of our library families, always remembering that too limited a diet causes indigestion. We must buy Western stories for the grown-up boy, detective stories for statesmen and clergymen, and flappers, romances for the mentally-starved, historical novels for the would-be adventurer, novels of strange countries to broaden our horizon, novels of intellect to deepen our thought, novels of fantasy to stir our love of beauty. We have a large family to feed, and none must be forgotten.

¹Presented at joint meeting of North Dakota and Minnesota library associations, Moorhead, N. D., October 10, 1928.

But in setting our intellectual table, we must consider how it is to be served. The modern library is built on the cafeteria plan, where all may help themselves. Are these books we are buying suitable for those open shelves? This, of course, depends in turn upon the class of people who use those shelves. In the Minneapolis public library, we are fortunately old fashioned enough to have closed shelves, a sort of butler's pantry arrangement, so we can and do buy books marked by fine literary flavor, artistry of diction, or wide knowledge of life, which should be available to mature adults, but we do not place them on open shelves where they might shock those whose outlook on life is limited to the most sheltered home. No dietician would serve highly spiced food to children.

Having settled these preliminary matters, we must judge each book for its value as literature, and to settle this question requires all our critical powers of culture, training and experience. Is the book well-written or poorly-written? worth while, or trash, or just mediocre? charming or annoying? inspiring, or disgusting? amusing or boring? Is it, in its class, a work of art?

This is not a simple matter to decide, but to complicate the problem still more, we must add the financial consideration. How much money have we to spend on new fiction? Every housekeeper struggles with a financial budget which often covers only the greatest necessities, and in the same way, librarians can buy only to satisfy the greatest demands. Yet how far must we go to satisfy those demands? Are the people crying for a certain book because they really want it? or because the advertisers tell them they want it? In a large library system, if we buy one copy of a widely-advertised but worthless book, we must buy a hundred copies. Is that book worth a hundred and fifty dollars to our community?

This is a question of salesmanship, not censorship. Censorship! that dread word before which we all quail! Do we, as mature adults, admit the right of anyone else to dictate what we shall or shall

not read? Do we, as servants of our communities, feel fit to dictate to other mature adults what they shall or shall not read? Such procedure is directly opposed to the nature of this nation, which was founded on the principles of religious and intellectual freedom. Of course, the blatantly obscene and immoral books are ruled out of public libraries by public law, and the obviously vulgar, by the rule of good taste. But for the rest, how shall we decide? We cannot buy everything. What rule of selection shall we follow in choosing our feast of reason? Without revealing how I am to cast my vote on election day, I should here like to say that after more than twenty years of library work, I would cast my vote for the voice of the people—that is, the decision of the majority which in the end generally coincides with that of posterity.

This is not to say that Abie's Irish Rose is a work of genius, but to maintain that it contains elements of vitality or it could never have earned such long-lived popularity. It was popular enthusiasm rather than the judgment of eminent critics that first acclaimed Jane Eyre as a work of art. Yet, I was pleased to note the other day when reading Mrs Gaskell's Life of Charlotte Bronte, that the first demand for copies of the new novel came from librarians. That was in England in 1847. Can the librarians of today in this country recognize the work of an unknown genius as quickly? It may not have been by librarians, but it was by word of mouth from its readers that fame first came to The Bridge of San Luis Rey. Mr Wilder's first book, The Cabala, had been read and greatly enjoyed by a few but had not attracted attention, and he had told the publishers that this second book was not worth pushing, so the wide-spread demand for it came as a surprise to author and publisher and not as a result of preliminary advertising.

Yet we must distinguish genuine approval from that counterfeit demand caused by the various Book-of-the-Month clubs which set a false value on a few books and by their advertising,

force the sale of quantities of an inferior book which would otherwise languish and die, as have other better books.

Neither must we be led into thinking that a high priced book is necessarily a better book. If I am not mistaken, Main Street was the first two-dollar novel, and its publishers excused the price on the ground of the amount of paper needed to make its four hundred pages. Now, we are offered attenuated fantasies with wide margins and mauve bindings, at two and a half and even three dollars.

How, then, shall we meet the rising price of books and the more rapidly rising number of books with our more or

less stationary book funds? By remembering that we are administering a trust fund which is to be spent for the greatest good of the greatest number. By eliminating all books that are not works of art in the broad sense of the term. This includes not only books of fine literary flavor to satisfy the keenly intellectual but those which are merely entertaining or amusing enough to appeal to the mentally immature. Finally, by realizing that no collection of books is perfect in its representation of all classes, but that at least we are all striving toward the ideal of building libraries for the people.

Letters—Information and Discussion

A Valuable Collection

A generous offer

Dr Joseph Broadman, 141 West 41st St., New York City, announces that he is desirous of donating a wonderful collection of war publications to the library of a university, college or historical society of standing. The recipient would be required to obtain the necessary funds for treating the collection in a manner to preserve it permanently, to bind the newspaper files, to take care of such of the magazines as are not yet bound and to finish the index for the material in the scrap books which is already finished to the extent of one-fifth. Dr Broadman will be pleased to confer with those who might want to receive this valuable collection.

Those who have seen the collection speak of it in the highest terms. One says that it is a perfectly marvelous compilation and fills 55 packing cases. The collection of this historical material was a hobby of Dr Broadman during the war and he has spent thousands of dollars on it. A number of prominent universities and associations are interested but Dr Broadman insists that he be assured that proper care in the storing and arrangement will be given by the library in return for the gift.

This collection is said by many to be the most complete war library to be found anywhere. It shows every phase

of information as expressed in print in this country and foreign countries during the war, consisting of opinions, arguments, etc. Dr Broadman's proposition is open to the whole United States. Here is an occasion where one with public spirit and the money can do a service to his day by taking over the duty of making the material available to the public.

Some of the items included are: *New York Times*, Jl'14-D'18; *London Telegraph*, Jl'14-D'19; *Berner Bund* (Swiss) Jl'14-D'19; *Neue Freie Presse* (Vienna) Jl'14-Ap'20; *Vossische Zeitung* (German) incomplete, Jl'14-N'19; *Berliner Tageblatt* (German) Ag'14-Je'19; *Arbeiter Zeitung* (Vienna) Jl'14-Ap'20; *Reichspost* (Vienna) Jl'14-Ap'20, and many others. New York papers are included. Sets of indexes have been collected for nearly all the periodicals. A set of 80 scrap books with clippings pasted on both sides of the leaves, 300 pages to each volume, is included; a set of 3000 to 4000 booklets, leaflets, pamphlets of propaganda made into a set of 100 volumes; official records, U. S. A., official records foreign, official bulletins, U. S.; a set of Liberty-Loan posters; scrap book index; 60 sets of over 60 famous periodicals covering the war period; about 5000 letters to editors of metropolitan newspapers.

Dr Broadman will welcome the inquiries of those interested in acquiring the collection.

Information Wanted**New edition of the British Museum Catalog of Printed Books**

To further the possibility of a complete new edition of the British Museum catalog of printed books, which the Bibliographical Society of America has been advocating for the past few years, it is necessary to secure the following information at the earliest date possible. Will all those who are interested, please send the information indicated below to the regional chairman of their section of the country?

Have you the old edition of the catalog?
How many copies?
Do you subscribe to the current issues of the Accessions catalog?
Are you able to subscribe to the new edition?

Two possible prices are mentioned. There will be about 160 volumes. If 500 sets are printed, the cost will be \$12.50 per v. or \$250 for 20 v. per year (\$62.50 for 5 v. every quarter), making the set cost \$2,000 over a period of 8 years. If only an edition of 250 sets is printed, the price per volume will be at least £4 or \$20 per volume, making \$3,200 for the set, but the set may reach \$4,000 in the 8 years needed to complete it.

Directions

Please state if your library can subscribe at either price.

Libraries in the New England states, please communicate with Prof Andrew Keogh, librarian, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.

Libraries in the Middle states including W. Virginia and the District of Columbia, with Harry M. Lydenberg, assistant-director, New York public library, New York City.

Libraries in the Southern states including Kentucky, Tennessee, and Oklahoma but not Missouri, with Dr Louis R. Wilson, librarian University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N. C.

Libraries in the Middle-Western states including Missouri, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, with Dr W. W. Bishop, librarian, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Libraries in the Pacific states including Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah,

Idaho, Alaska, the Philippines and Hawaii, with Harold L. Leupp, librarian, University of California, Berkeley, Calif.

Library of Congress H. H. B. MEYER
Washington, D. C.

Committee of the Library Institute for the encouragement of research desires information on

- 1) Research projects in process or completed during 1928-29 by librarians;
- 2) Information in regard to research in other fields that have a distinct bearing on the improvement of library service;
- 3) Suggestions from library administrators as to phases of their work in which research is needed.

HENRY O. SEVERANCE, Chairman
University of Missouri

Choosing Newberry Medal Book

The award of the John Newberry medal for "the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children" each year is a great privilege and honor, entrusted to the Children's librarians' section of the A. L. A.

Altho the final decision rests with the Newberry Medal committee, all members of the section should feel an equally keen and personal interest and responsibility in the selection. The section now numbers approximately 700 and it is hoped that there will be a popular expression from as many members as possible. Inasmuch as the A. L. A. conference is scheduled for spring, there is special need of prompt response. Will members of the Children's librarians' section send not later than March 23, their suggestions for the book to receive the Newberry medal for 1928, to the chairman of the Book Evaluation committee?

HELEN MARTIN
Chairman

Western Reserve University,
Cleveland, Ohio

Prizes for Librarians

The Vermont library association is offering prizes totaling \$150 to the librarians who increase the most the usefulness of their libraries to the communities

which they serve, before the next annual meeting of the association to be held in Springfield, September 24-25. A first prize of \$100 has been contributed by the *Woman's Home Companion*, which will publish the story of the work done by the prize winner. Second prize is \$50 in money and 15 books and will be reserved for and awarded to a librarian located in a town under 2000 population, in case the first prize is awarded to a librarian in a town over 2000 population. The contest is open to every public library in the state. It is hoped that the interest aroused by this contest will increase the amount of town appropriations for library purposes.

What Is Research?

How Periodicals Aid Research is the title of an excellent article by Mr H. O. Severance in the *Library Journal* for July, 1928. The word "research" seems to have caught the fancy of many of us, and has moved us to use it often where a much less imposing word would be more appropriate and would relieve us of the charge that we are exalting a very ordinary and simple task by giving it a high sounding name. Of course, I am here hinting at librarians, but misuse of the word is common and can easily lay Americans in general to the charge of trying to make a mountain of a molehill by giving the former a mountainous title. I do not attempt to define the word "research"—it is not immoral—or mean to apply it to the small job of looking in a dictionary to see how a word is spelt. But if I am not mistaken, the rapid growth of libraries in recent years and the, to me, unfortunate acquisition of a generous handout from a foundation by our national association, has led us so to exalt the library horn as to lead us to like to apply a large name to the small potatoes of our daily routine.

Mr Severance's article is surely a cooling draught for the mental fever which has overtaken us and his story can be extended to our advantage. He has quite properly confined his references to periodical literature, almost entirely to

publications of this country. Partly as a consequence of this, his paper may fail to weaken our sense of self-sufficiency as much as it should, and may leave us quite content with the faith that we have really done "research work" of quite a complete kind, of a kind well worthy the name we give it, when we have pursued our question thru all our American journals, proceedings, indexes, etc.

Mr Carlos de Zafra, director of the *Index Service* of the American Society of mechanical engineers, at my request, has kindly sent me the result of a brief inquiry, by J. E. Hannum, editor of *Index Service*, into seven research problems of today. These problems, Mr Hannum writes me, are now being pursued by experts in European countries and not, so far as he knows, in Great Britain or the United States. Under each of the seven subjects are listed references—only those indexed for this current year—to engineering periodicals in English and other languages. And all the references are to periodicals not published in either Great Britain or the United States.¹

Mr Severance, of course, knows that research properly so called often goes beyond the borders of the country where it begins, and I do not need to say again that he has wisely and skilfully drawn attention to the value of that wide ranging literature which we commonly lump under the word "periodicals." These notes of mine are aimed at the besetting sin of over-exalting commonplace work by giving it a high-sounding name. We are not often, in American libraries, "doing research;" we are very often "looking up a few facts." Why not say so?

J. C. DANA

I always enjoy and get help from LIBRARIES and recommend it to other librarians who ask me about a library journal. We use it here and hand it to our assistants.—*Blake Beem, Boston Medical Library*.

¹ Mr. Dana's article was accompanied by a list of references dealing with special investigations and experiments being carried on in Europe in 1928.

The Hewins Memorial Fund

Editor, LIBRARIES:

The following announcements will be of interest to a number of librarians who were glad of the opportunity afforded to contribute to the Hewins memorial fund.

A fund to be known as the Caroline M. Hewins scholarship for children's librarians, was established in 1927 as a tribute in special recognition of Miss Hewins' great interest in library work for children by friends. The fund, which is still growing, yields at present about \$350 annually.

The committee to administer the fund has made the first award under the scholarship. This has been given to Jennie D. Lindquist, City library, Manchester, New Hampshire, for 1928-29.

For Distribution

The following publications are available for distribution from the General Library of the University of Michigan for the cost of postage:

E. D. Campbell. History of the chemical laboratory of the University of Michigan, 1856-1916. Ann Arbor, 1916.

J. V. Campbell. Outlines of the political history of Michigan. Detroit, 1876.

Michigan Political Science Association. Publications. Vols. 4, 5, 6.

F. M. Taylor. Principles of economics. 7th ed. Ann Arbor, 1920.

Judge Campbell's "Outlines of the political history of Michigan," although published in 1876, is still the most valuable contribution to the early history of the State of Michigan.

The Publications of the Michigan Political Science Association contain a number of important contributions which cannot be found elsewhere.

Very respectfully,

Wm. W. BISHOP
Librarian

Keeping the Record Straight

To the Editor of LIBRARIES:

Why is it that the young in years or in a given field of knowledge always think their ideas are new, and it never seems to occur to them to look behind

and see what others have thought and done before them?

This trite thought was aroused by the announcement of the *First International conference of libraries and bibliographers* to be held in Rome.

Tho I am not of the oldest in the profession, I did know that the *First International conference* was held in 1877, about two hundred delegates from various countries being present, of whom nineteen were from the United States.

But I was one of the eighty delegates from America to attend in 1897 the *Second International conference of librarians*, (and so designated in *Library Journal* 22:391; *Public Libraries* 2:410) when five hundred delegates were present.

Since then there have been several meetings, international in intention if not in name, such as St. Louis in 1904, Bussels in 1910, Atlantic City in 1926, Edinburgh in 1927, etc.

As I did not attend all of these I will say nothing of them.

Why then is the conference to be held in Rome called the *First International Conference*?

Yours truly,
NINA E. BROWNE

44 Pinckney St.
Boston.

Editor of Libraries Present

In the new Library Chats department of the *Library Journal*, February 1, it is stated that the editor of LIBRARIES had missed a meeting of the A. L. A. This is an incorrect statement. The attendance register (that alas! was discontinued two years ago because it was too expensive to print) will show no gaps in the attendance record of the said editor, whatever the other A. L. A. records may show concerning her. M. E. A.

Official Notice of World Congress

Official notice has been issued from the Ministry of Public Instruction at Rome concerning the World Congress of libraries and bibliography to be held in Rome the second half of the month of June, 1929. The notice says:

The chief reason for its very high importance rests in this: that the Congress, preceded by the work of the international academic organizations, will occupy itself with determining by generous discussion and scientific competence the technical means reputed most suitable for the speedy and easy mastery and consultation of that cultural patrimony which constitutes the basis of the international exchanges in the intellectual field.

Scholarship Grants for Library Students

The Carnegie Corporation of New York has set aside a fund for scholarship grants to persons preparing for library service.

The purpose of the grants is to enable persons who already have had experience in library work and who have shown promise of capacity to contribute to the advancement of the library profession, to pursue a year of study of library problems.

The work will be done, not necessarily in residence, but invariably in connection with a recognized educational institution.

The stipend will vary according to the requirements of individual students and when warranted, may be renewed for a second year.

Applicants should write to the Advisory Group on Library Scholarship Grants, Carnegie Corporation, 522 Fifth Avenue, New York, giving information on the following points:

- a Age
- b Full record of college work
- c Reading and speaking knowledge of foreign languages
- d Training and experience in library work. Other occupational experience.
- e Plan of proposed study in detail
- f Educational auspices under which applicant desires to study
- g Names and addresses of three persons who can speak on the basis of their own professional competence and from personal knowledge of the candidate, as to the candidate's capacity 1) for library work, 2) for specific work outlined under (e) above

Applicants should not request persons named in (g) to write directly to the Advisory Group.

Photographs, preferably unmounted, of the applicant should be sent.

Applications for scholarship grants for the school year 1929-30 should be filed before April 1, 1929. Applications will be acted on before May 1 and applicants will be notified as soon as possible thereafter.

The Engineering Index Service Indexes This Journal

This journal is fully indexed—every issue, as soon as published—in a set of cards, which thus brings ready to your hand any article on any subject in this journal or in any one of 1700 other journals in all languages. The *Engineering Index Service*, instituted in January, 1928, is to be found in the Public libraries of Newark, Cleveland, Bridgeport, Baltimore and the John Crerar library, Chicago.

Engineers in any field who live or work in or near New Jersey will find this mammoth index to the latest engineering literature, in the Public library of Newark, N. J., which has this journal on file.

Library Activities Elsewhere

The new library building at Shanghai College, China, was dedicated the last of the year. The library, which cost \$40,000, is modern in every respect. It has accommodations for 200 students in the reading rooms, where 26,000 books are available. Of these, 12,500 are in English and 13,500 in Chinese. The enrollment of users is about 600. The dedicatory address was made by Dr C. T. Wang, Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The newly completed addition to the Vatican library in Rome is receiving the valuable material that is to be housed there. More than 60,000 manuscripts which have been arranged for the use of special scholars will be stored there with more than 250,000v. Many famous collections of manuscripts from private sources representing families noted in the history of the world have been secured. There are 700 Latin, 300 Greek and 124 Armenian manuscripts said to be of indescribable value.

Monthly—Except August
and September

Libraries

Mary Eileen Ahern, Editor

216 W. Monroe Street
Chicago, Illinois

Subscription - - - - - \$3 a year Five copies to one library - - - \$12 a year
Current single number - - - 35 cents Foreign subscriptions - - - \$3.50 a year

By the rules of the banks of Chicago, an exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or postoffice money-orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at market prices.

Contributions for current numbers of *Libraries* should be in hand by the fifteenth of the month previous to the appearance of the magazine. Advertisements for which proof is not required can be accepted as late as the twenty-second of the previous month.

Bibliographers Meet in Rome

FROM several directions, one learns of one and other preparation being made for the meeting at Rome in June of the World Congress of libraries and bibliography and since the news concerning it comes from various directions, it is not singular that much of it is localized both in statement, outlook and preparation. Enthusiasm has always been a moving spirit and an important one in progress in any line of human endeavor from the greatest to the smallest.

James G. Hodgson sends a copy of the official announcement of the meeting which is called the First World Congress of Libraries and Bibliography at Rome. The announcement is addressed to eminent persons in the world of culture in Italy more or less concerned with libraries of various kinds.

The document emphasizes the importance of the occasion and the high regard in which the Power of Italy holds the idea of what is termed the First World Congress devoted to libraries and bibliography.

Note for Inauguration Day

The Prince of Wei has been waiting for you that he may administer his government with your help, said a disciple to Confucius.

If one were captious at all, one might question the correctness of this claim. History tells us of the World Convention of bibliographers, librarians and archivists held in London, 1927, in St Louis in 1904, in Brussels in 1910, with leanings toward such dignity by the meetings in the United States in 1926 and at Edinburgh in 1927. It might be truly said that this is the first call from the committee recently brought into existence at Edinburgh, to hold a meeting under its auspices, but hardly can it be said to be "the first international meeting to discuss bibliography, library service and kindred topics." A complete announcement of the proposed agenda of the congress is not yet available.

The several parts of the program will doubtless come along as they are developed and for the scholarly librarian, there will be much satisfaction in participation in the proceedings, and for the less erudite, much pleasure in watching the interesting proceedings of the doctors of the law.

Now what will you think the first thing to be done?

Why, to rectify names! said the master.
—From *The Story of Oriental Philosophy*.

List of Nominations for A. L. A. Officers

The list of nominations for A. L. A. officers appeared the very day the forms for February LIBRARIES were closed. Things like that have happened before but sometimes have been stripped of their cruelty by stopping the press and tearing out and up and over and sending out what seemed important news eagerly expected. But this time that was not done. It seemed certain that the news would still be news when-

ever the announcement should be made, and it was.

The list is found elsewhere (see p. 117) and the names on it are for the most part familiar in the regions which they represent as those of the outstanding members of the craft. It is not at all likely that other names will be offered for consideration and so, congratulations may be offered and expectations regarding the future activities entertained.

A Word of Welcome

AMONG the librarians who were the first to extend the right hand of fellowship, many years ago, to the new periodical, PUBLIC LIBRARIES, was the late lamented Dr James A. Bayne of Toronto. Anyone who has made a new venture of that kind realizes how much a kindly, sincere welcome means to the adventurer. The welfare and happiness of the Public library of Toronto has had, consequently, ever since, a place of high regard in the affections of this magazine. Opportunity to be of service and occasions of personal association have been welcomed because of that.

So the opportunity now to welcome a new librarian, and one of standing, to the service of the Toronto public library is grasped with great pleasure. Accordingly, LIBRARIES does extend to Mr C. R. Sanderson, who shortly will take his place as assistant-librarian in that insti-

tution, a most cordial and hearty welcome with sincere good wishes for the professional success and the personal happiness and prosperity of Mr Sanderson and his family, as new-comers to the library circles of Canada and, as is to be hoped, to the A. L. A. circle embracing both the United States and Canada.

Those librarians on this side of the Atlantic who have had the pleasure of meeting Mr Sanderson in his capacity of official host on the occasion of their sojourning among British librarians, will rejoice at the opportunity to meet Mr Sanderson more frequently than has been possible heretofore, when he shall have come among them.

LIBRARIES bespeaks for Mr Sanderson among his colleagues on this side of the Atlantic, the cordial reception which he so richly deserves both professionally and personally.

A graph issued by the N. E. A. of a decade of growth, 1917-27, shows an increase in membership from 10,000 to 181,000, a fact which is both inspiring and significant. The *N. E. A. Journal* says that this growth symbolizes the advancement of the profession.

The N. E. A. research division has been quite effective for carrying on salary increases in the cities. In carrying forward this program, the Association

stands and works for: Better salaries for trained teachers, higher certification requirements for entrance to the profession; effective tenure laws for teachers of proved ability; adequate retirement allowances for teachers who have given their best days to the cause; sabbatical leave for teachers who have rendered faithful, consecutive service; an equal educational opportunity for every child; larger financial support for the work.

A. L. A. Headquarters in Chicago

The headquarters of the American Library Association were founded in Chicago in 1909. Thru the courtesy of the board of directors of the Chicago public library influenced by the then acting-librarian, Mr Carl B. Roden, quarters for such offices were secured in the Public library building, which thru the generosity of library interests in Chicago were handsomely equipped and opened in October in charge of Mr Chalmers Hadley, the new secretary. From the very opening day the demand upon the office began to grow and despite the wholly inadequate funds at its disposal, such a spirit of helpfulness was engendered that a new day and a new outlook were plainly seen and felt as appeals were met and helpful counsel rendered.

After two years, Mr Hadley resigned to accept a fine offer from the Public library at Denver and was succeeded in 1911 by George B. Utley. Mr Utley's contributions to the spirit of helpfulness that permeated the A. L. A. in the 10 years he spent as its secretary which time, of course, covered the period of the Great War, made a lasting impression on all who in any way were concerned in library service. So readily did he meet as far as limited means permitted, the need of the extension of library service that a lasting foundation was laid upon which was and in continuance is still being built in this day of progress accelerated by the generosity of the Carnegie Corporation whose abounding resources have made possible development in size, in diversity, and in directions not even dreamed of before the war. But his successor is equal to the situation.

Carl H. Milam called to be assistant to the Director of War Library Service in the days of need, easily fitted in on account of the experience gained in that position, to the larger opportunities at A. L. A. headquarters offered by the new days of ample means. Every item in the budget was met with means sufficient to make it register in a way it had not done before. New avenues of activity were constantly opening calling for more space, more people, and more abundant means to meet the situations.

Chicago public library found its need of space so dire in 1923 as to render it impossible to house a tenant and so A. L. A. headquarters moved to the John Crerar library building across the street. Now those quarters are outgrown and the offices are to be moved again to "the north side" at 520 N. Michigan Ave. A lease for 10 years for the required space in a new building under construction, at a term rental of \$172,800, will allow a period of undisturbed activity in which it may be expected the library service of A. L. A. will reach still greater heights than it has done in the past.

Death's Toll

The Chicago newspapers heralded the passing, on February 11, of one of the highly regarded citizens of Lombard, Illinois, Josiah T. Reade. The Chicago newspapers made much of the fact that he had been for many years the oldest commuter in the region. It might be said of him also that he was the oldest librarian in the country in active service. Mr Reade lacked a few days of being 100 years old but no one would have thought of him as having spanned a century. He was born in New England, was graduated from Amherst College and was interested in literary achievements all his life.

He came to the region of Chicago in 1862 and took up as one of his earliest interests the practice of library service. He generously contributed from his own means to the library of Lombard, supplying it with books, periodicals and necessary material, moved by his faith in books as a moral support to the community and in the hope that the latter would of its own accord, in time be the supporters and users of books that it was his dream that it should be.

Mr Reade was among the first members of the Illinois library association and the Chicago library club and for many years was present regularly at their meetings, tho never taking public part in their proceedings. He could be depended upon for wise counsel, advice and for financial contributions in earnest endeavors to extend library service and had little patience with time servers. He

retired from active business several years ago, but kept up his interest and activity in the library till a short time before his death.

William McC. McKee, W. R., '17, died at his home in Pittsburgh of pneumonia, January 5. After his services during the Great War (receiving his diploma in *absentia*) Mr. McKee became librarian of the Cleveland Museum of Art for two years (1920-21) and was also curator of prints. In that position he showed such ability and knowledge of the field of art that he was called to the position of curator of prints and drawings at the Art Institute of Chicago, which position he filled with distinction up to the time of his death. His kindness and consideration of others and his charming personality endeared him to a wide circle of friends in both the library world and the art world.

A. S. T.

On January 30, 1929, the Associated Press cabled news of the death of Cedric Chivers, native of Bath, and for the sixth consecutive year, mayor of that famous old city. He was a remarkable man, artist, inventor, library binder, statesman and humanitarian. His service to his native city and country received the highest praise and he was over and over declared "the most eminent and highest type of citizen Bath has ever possessed." The American library world owes him much for his generous counsel and service in book preservation.

As a young man he worked in his father's bindery in Bath, and then pursued his studies of the ancient craft in Switzerland and in the workshops of Monsieur Chatelin of Paris.

He was specially interested in book decoration, but he felt that the designer was hampered by too many restrictions and he searched for some method which would allow more scope for the genius of the artist in the embellishment of modern books. The problem he coped with was to find a transparent material of durable quality which could be used as an outer covering for books, its transparency enabling the beauty of

the artists' design in water colors to be seen.

While conducting experiments connected with the durability of bindings, he discovered that vellum chosen from clear skins, left unstretched, and treated with great care and delicacy, could be obtained in a transparent state and that it became tougher and less liable to warp in this than in the ordinary form. He patented his invention under the name of vellucent and exhibited beautiful examples of this new method of book decoration, in London, Paris, Turin, and in 1904 in St. Louis. Five gold medals were awarded to him as the inventor of the vellucent process. He had a staff of famous artists to whom the vellucent method gave opportunity for freer expression, added facilities for the use of color and ornamentation, and a wider variety of designs. It was applied also to the preservation of rare and valuable old books—quaint tomes of the sixteenth century, old black letter books and incunabula.

But while the artist in Cedric Chivers rejoiced in what he had created, he did not neglect the practical side of his craft. He was the first binder to deal specially and widely with public library bookbinding, in the matter of special treatment, differentiating his work and applying a binding to a book according to its good or bad, thick or thin paper.

In his studios at Portway, Bath, he trained hundreds of young men and women in his original methods of binding library books. He called this binding duro-flexile because it was durable, flexible, and insured a long life to each volume. There was a number of patents on Chivers specialties, including his patent oversewing, done by hand, and planned to allow the greatest freedom in opening the book.

When a group of prominent American librarians suggested that he open a bindery in this country, he adopted the suggestion and established in 1905 a small plant in Brooklyn where the business increased in leaps and bounds.

He was unable to leave England during the entire term of the World war, and altho his Brooklyn staff became depleted, his mandate to "carry on" was loyally observed, and the business flourished until 1923, when his duties as Mayor of Bath forced him to sell the Brooklyn plant and retire from active business life in America.

Even to summarize what he accomplished for the binding of public library books would require much space. But it may be mentioned that in his costly experimental work, he examined the paper of thousands of books; made records and analyses of each individual book; arranged appropriate bindings for the different and deteriorated qualities of paper; examined and tested bookbinding materials, selecting the best; tested leathers and improved them for bookbinding; invented machines and devices to deal expeditiously and effectively with bookbinding, and raised the standard of public library binding in America, England, and the Colonies. He also wrote a number of pamphlets and lectured before the A. L. A. and the British Library Association.

His Brooklyn employees were like one big, happy family. As soon as he "came home" he went from the ground floor to the top, greeting old friends and getting acquainted with new workers. Every time he crossed the sea to supervise and direct his American business, it was a gala day in the bindery. He would come swinging in with the inevitable carnation in his buttonhole, immaculately groomed, and wearing the famous Chivers smile that could "coax a bird off a bush." He was very fond of experimenting and always had a batch of new binding ideas to discuss with his foremen.

He always insisted on having tea in his office at 4 o'clock, and for one hour he smoked and talked of every philosophy under the sun. He was a brilliant conversationalist, witty, interesting, and full of quaint "Chiversisms."

He always had much love and pride in English civic welfare. In his native

city he acted as justice of the peace, alderman, and for the past six years as mayor. He was head of the Liberal party, and in addition to supervising his large bindery in Bath, he attended to his civic and political activities, crowding into a day what a less resourceful and hard-working man could not accomplish in three days. He did much to rehabilitate Bath as a city of fashion for those desiring "the waters." Royalty has expressed appreciation of his work for the city—and it was said last fall, that this year he would again be offered knighthood which he before had refused.

He was keenly interested in children, and in memory of his only child, a boy who was crippled with rheumatic fever for years before his death, he founded a hospital ward for the relief of young invalids. He endowed other hospitals in Bath and homes for disabled soldiers and for war-widows and orphans. He was particularly kind to American boys wounded in the war and convalescing in London and in his own city, and often called on their relatives when he visited America. The special crutches he invented for crippled soldiers were said to be very helpful. To American librarians who visited England he was hospitality personified. His house and car were always at their service, and after his wife's death, an old friend of his, Lady McAllister, acted for him as hostess. Madam Sarah Grand, the author of *Heavenly Twins*, helped him in the capacity of Lady Mayoress at public receptions. He numbered among his intimate friends authors, artists of note, eminent men of affairs and people of merit.

He was never an enemy; when he lost confidence in people, he simply eliminated them from his vision. His work and his vivid personality will live always in the memory of those who were associated with him in business and thru the bonds of friendship.

The press and public of Bath vied with each other in their regard for him living and in their sorrow for him dying and dead.

Report of the A. L. A. Nominating Committee

Results of the election will be made public at the close of the annual conference of the A. L. A. at Washington, D. C., May 13-18. The slate is as follows:

President

Andrew Keogh, Yale University library, New Haven, Conn.

First vice-president

Everett R. Perry, Public library, Los Angeles, Calif.

Second vice-president

Jennie M. Flexner, Public library, New York, N. Y.

Treasurer

Matthew S. Dudgeon, Public library, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Trustee of Endowment fund

John W. O'Leary, Chicago Trust Company, Chicago, Illinois

Members of the Executive Board

Linda A. Eastman, Public library, Cleveland, Ohio

Judson T. Jennings, Public library, Seattle, Washington

Members of the Council

Robert J. Usher, Howard Memorial library, New Orleans, La.

Charles H. Compton, Public library, St Louis, Missouri

Halsey W. Wilson, H. W. Wilson Co., 958 University Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Essae M. Culver, State library commission, Baton Rouge, La.

R. R. Bowker, *The Library Journal*, 62 W. 45th St, New York, N. Y.

Other nominations, if supported by any 15 members and filed with the secretary at least two months before the next conference, will be included in the official ballot.

Committee: Carl B. Roden, chairman; C. F. D. Belden, W. W. Bishop, Josephine A. Rathbone, Althea H. Warren.

At a Radio Program

The radio program compiled by the A. L. A. for the National League of Women Voters and given on February 12, had for its subject, The Pan-American Arbitration Conference and its outcome. The general treatment of it was based on the volume, *The Story of the Pan-American Union*, by William A. Reid, a brief historical sketch of the Union and a description of its organization.

The Pan-American Conference in Havana, January, 1928, was covered by the periodicals as follows:

The Sixth International Conference of the American States: A survey. By James Brown Scott. *International Conciliation (Carnegie Endowment for International Peace)*, June, 1928.

A detailed account of Conference proceedings.

Second thots on Havana. By Walter Lippmann. *Foreign Affairs*, July, 1928.

An intelligent discussion of the diplomacy of the United States in regard to Latin-America and an interesting interpretation of the political-social structure of Latin-American countries.

South America awakens. By Manual Ugarte. *The Living Age*, July, 1928.

An account of the Conference from the Latin-American point of view.

Two Leagues of Nations. *The New Republic*, December 26, 1928.

Written on the eve of the Arbitration Conference this discussion of the relation between the League of Nations, the Pan-American Union and the Monroe Doctrine forms an interesting introduction to the general problems of the Conference.

Peace in the Americas. *The Outlook*, January 16, 1929.

A clear, brief account of the results of the Conference.

A victory for arbitration. *The New Republic*, January 16, 1929.

A clear analysis of the two notable agreements signed at the Conference.

The new pacts to drive war from the New World. *The Literary Digest*, January 19. Comments of the press on the results of the Arbitration Conference.

The material compiled by the A. L. A. for February 26 related to appropriation bills. Material was taken from three volumes: Our governmental machine, by Schuyler C. Wallace; American government and politics, by Charles A. Beard; Principles of public administration, with special reference to national and state government of the U. S., by W. F. Willoughby. The periodical material for that date was: The treasury "in the red," from the *Literary Digest*, September 15, 1928.

Opinions of the press on certain government expenditures, tax reductions, and appropriations.

The topic for March 5 is Unsolved problems confronting the new administration. The volume by John A. Fairlie, *The National administration of the U. S. A.* is the basis of the study.

An unofficial party of librarians to travel abroad next summer, shepherded by Mr F. W. Faxon of Boston, is proposed by the Temple Tour people.

Growth of Library of Congress

Reflect, says *The Mentor Magazine*, on the surprise and astonishment that would be John Beckley's could he return from the Beyond and visit the Library of Congress in its present magnificence, vast proportions and wealth of substance. John Beckley was the institution's first librarian. In his time all the library's books were in one wing of the Capitol.

Politicians, statesmen, diplomats convened there! it was the rendezvous of fashionable society. Log fires furnished the heat, candles the illumination. Obscure nooks and corners were the favorite trysting places of belles and swains.

The building that now houses the nation's books covers three and a half acres of ground. It was completed in 1897 at a cost of approximately six million dollars. How old John Beckley would wrinkle his brow at mention of that sum! His thots would drift back to the year 1800, when the total appropriation voted by Congress for the purchase of books and the fitting up of the library amounted to \$5,000.

Beckley received his appointment from Thomas Jefferson. Each of his successors has likewise been appointed by a president—politics seldom dictating the choice.

The first catalog listed 964 books. Most of these were purchased in England and arrived in the capital in trunks.

In the early days considerable damage was caused to the books by the careless use of candles. On one such occasion, Daniel Webster answered the midnight alarm and joined in the bucket brigade that fought the flames.

The most devastating fire of all was a wanton act of vandalism—the whole civilized world cried out in denunciation. The black-letter day fell in August, 1814, when the British troops invaded Washington and used the three thousand books of the library as fuel for the burning of the Capitol.

Despite these vicissitudes the new born American republic was resolved to establish a national library that in time would equal the best in the Old World. Each

disaster kindled a fresh spark of life and determination on the part of the sponsors. After the calamity of 1814, Jefferson's collection of books, comprising six thousand volumes, was purchased by Congress. The acquisition was made before the Capitol had been restored, and the books remained for a while in a hotel room hastily prepared to receive them.

Today, the Library of Congress ranks third among the great libraries of the world. The British Museum and the Bibliothèque Nationale of France surpass it in number of items, but the American institution occupies the largest building.

Using the *Weekly List* in Boston

Since July 11, 32 copies of each number of the *Weekly List* have been regularly received and sent to our 31 branch libraries, with the result that 673 copies of Government books and pamphlets have been recommended at an approximate cost of \$110.

The list of subjects and the number of pamphlets on each may be of interest to those interested:

Aeronautics, 34; Animals (birds, game, etc.), 28; Army regulations, 20; Baltic states, 8; Boy Scouts, 13; Business, statistics, 9; Child labor, 34; City planning, 6; Civil service, 9; Coal, 1; Cocoa, 9; Coffee, 6; Coolidge addresses, 5; Copyright law, 6; Cotton, 8; Educational, 34; Federal farm loan, 1; Federal reclamation laws, 1; Flowers—plants, 43; Fly-traps, 1; Foreign service, 7; Foreign trade, 11; Forestry and parks, 66; Fruits, 26; Galvanizing, 3; Geology, bibliography, 5; Graphite, 5; Health, 37; Immigrants, 18; Income tax, 5; Indians, 1; International conference, 4; Irrigation, 3; Labor, 9; Linseed oil, 2; Meat, 2; Metals, precious, 3; Milk, 22; Navy, 1; Negro education, 7; Nicaragua, 11; Oysters, 1; Panama Canal, 7; Ports, 4; Postal guide, 4; Poultry, 1; Radio, 5; Safety codes, 3; School lunches, 12; Slate, 1; Solar wave-length, 3; Steam engines, 5; Tariff, 6; Time, 9; Trade, 3; Treaties, 20; Ultra-violet, 4; Utility corporations, 2; Veterans, 1; War, 25; Water, 30; Weather bureau, 3; total, 673.

Often a five-cent pamphlet gives the information which cannot be found in a book costing fifty times that amount.

The smaller pamphlets are kept with other information material in our

pamphlet files and the larger books are bound and placed on the shelves.

The branch librarians and the public are becoming acquainted with Uncle Sam's publishing activities and incidentally with Government affairs.

Here in Boston we are increasingly grateful to the chief of Government Printing Office and to Superintendent of Documents for the *Weekly List* which is indeed an invaluable reference tool.

We realize that the preparation of the list has placed an added burden on the already over-worked staff of the office of Superintendent of Documents and we, therefore, hesitate to express a wish that notes similar to those which appeared on the last page of the issues of July 11 and 18, August 1 and September 26, might be given whenever space is available. Several of the lists have had one completely blank page which might have been used for notes on publications projected or already issued, if it were possible for the Superintendent of Documents to spare some one for this work.

Before submitting the above notes for publication, I sent them to the Superintendent of Documents, Mr A. P. Tisdel, and received from him a reply, containing the following:

It is certainly pleasing to read that the *Weekly List* is supplying a long needed want of the libraries. Your statement "often a five-cent pamphlet" confirms an impression I have entertained for some time, that is, many librarians have discarded Government publications and expended many times the cost of the Government pamphlet for less valuable publications.

The tabulation you have made is very interesting when you think that in 16 or 17 numbers of the list there is found such a variety of subjects.

There will be no repetition of the *Weekly List* going out with blank spaces as did occur in several of the earlier numbers, as now there will always be notes of interest to fill the eight pages.

In the preparation of your article for LIBRARIES, I should be glad to have you invite all librarians to apply for the list.

(Signed) ALTON P. TISDEL
Superintendent

The great pleasure and satisfaction we find in using the *Weekly List* in B. P. L.



George H. Carter, U. S. public printer

make us heartily commend them to other libraries.

EDITH GUERRIER
Supervisor of branches

Public library
Boston, Mass.

A Town Is Judged By Its Public Library

This remark was made by the Town Manager of a large town near Boston. What would be the impression of your town on a stranger who viewed it from the angle of your library? Old New England was noted for its culture, its hospitality and its housekeeping. Is your library a good exponent of these qualities?

What about the spirit of hospitality and service? Are you sure that all the inhabitants of your town are aware of the book treasures open to them thru your library? Are the remote schoolhouses, the isolated farms, the foreigners in your township, supplied with books?

Is your library open a sufficient number of hours each week? We suggest that you use this table of the required

minimum in New York State as a check-up:

	Population
3 hours for less than	500
8 hours for	500- 2,000
18 hours for	2,000- 5,000
30 hours for	5,000-10,000
48 hours for	10,000-25,000

Are you supplementing your small collection of adult non-fiction with loans from this division? Are you who live in the very small towns taking advantage of our offer of 20 books for three months, selected especially for your community? Do you send to us to borrow special books asked for, or to get titles, publishers and prices of books on special subjects? More than 200 town libraries are availing themselves of these privileges.

Do you attend, whenever possible, neighborhood library meetings, library institutes, library courses arranged by the Divisions of public libraries and university extension? A course on reference work will be given at the Springfield city library during April and May. The next institute will be held at the Fitchburg Normal School, April 29 to May 3. Refreshment of spirit, professional stimulation, friendly contacts, result from all such meetings.

Would this hypothetical stranger in your town think your library measured up to the standards set by our famous New England housekeepers? Are the books standing trim and firm and upright on the shelves, or are they lop-sided, leaning every which-way? We hope you keep them mended, clean, and rebound. We hope that you replace torn and soiled books—if worthwhile from a literary standpoint—with fresh copies. We also suggest that you select the new, bright, pretty colors and fabrics for rebinding. Do you consider the effect of your library housekeeping on the children of your community? In short, is your library tidy and attractive?

A word to trustees: What impression of civic interest and community pride would your library offer this stranger? Are you trustees keenly interested in your library and alive to its possibilities? Do you insist that it shall be an important factor in the educational life of the

town and that it shall be kept out of politics? Do you succeed in obtaining fair appropriations, allowing for fair salaries and enough money for books? Do you keep the needs and the facilities of your library before your townspeople?

Is your library the center of all town interests?

*From Mass. Dept. of Education,
Division of Libraries*

International Library and Bibliographical Congress

"The first international Library and Bibliographical congress will be held in Rome and Venice, June 15-30, Dr Isaak Collijn, Royal library, Stockholm, Sweden, presiding. International schemes of classification, international cataloging rules, scholarships and fellowships, exchange of librarians, library relations and bibliography are among the subjects to be discussed."

According to the tentative program just received from Dr Vincenzo Fago, of the Ministry of public instruction in Italy, the delegates will arrive in Rome on June 13 and 14. The opening session will be held in Rome June 15. From June 17 to 19 there will be sessions of the various sections. June 25 to 28 will be devoted to general assemblies, the making of resolutions and closing sessions, in Venice.

On June 20-23 and 27-30, there will be no sessions. Special excursions will be arranged to give the delegates an opportunity to visit the various exhibitions which are being planned especially for them. In Rome, there will be an international exhibition of library work. In addition, there will be local exhibitions of the history of ancient and modern Rome, of the Italian book from Bodoni to the present time, and other special exhibitions in the great libraries of the city. Florence will offer an exhibition of the Italian book from the invention of printing to the time of Bodoni, and, in the *Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana*, an exhibition of miniatures. In Venice, there will be an exhibition of book binding in the *Biblioteca Nazionale Marciana*. Special book exhibitions will also be organized in other Italian cities.

To facilitate action, the Congress will be divided into 12 sections. Each section will have its own president and will discuss a different subject. Two Americans have been appointed as presidents of two of the sections—W. W. Bishop and T. W. Koch.

Sections of the Congress have been arranged as follows:

I International schemes of classification. President: Mr W. C. Berwick-Sayers, England.

II International cataloging rules. President: Dr Z. V. Tobolka, Czechoslovakia.

III Current bibliographies and depositories in the different countries. President: Dr Heinrich Uhlendahl, Germany.

IV International scholarships and fellowships. Exchange of librarians, assistants and students. President: Dr W. W. Bishop, United States of America.

V Professional library training. Library schools. President: M. Gabriel Henriot, France.

VI Amendments to the Edinburgh resolutions. President: (ex-officio) Dr. Isak Collijn, Sweden.

VII International library relations. President: M. Roland-Marcel, France.

VIII Relations with information bureaus, institutes of bibliography, etc. President: Dr Hugo Krüss, Germany.

IX International bibliography. Compilation of an international bibliographical code. President: Dr Vincenzo Fago, Italy.

X The Italian book. Italian bibliography and libraries. President: (ex-*loco*) Dr Giuseppe Fumagalli, Italy.

XI The book trade and book collecting. President: Mr Theo. Wesley Koch, United States of America.

XII Professional associations and other professional questions. President: Mr L. Stanley Jast, England.

It is significant that M. Roland Marcel of the Bibliothèque Nationale has been assigned the conduct of the "Sixth Section" concerned with international relations between libraries. The subjects to be treated are:

Relations internationales entre bibliothèques

Questions à traiter:

Offices de renseignements.

Échanges internationaux.

Échanges universitaires.

Prêts à l'étranger.

Dépôt légal européen.

On behalf of the international and local committees, Dr Fago sends a welcome, not only to the official delegates, but also to all librarians and library workers, bibliographers, publishers,

book-sellers and book collectors in the United States and Canada. It is hoped that librarians traveling in Europe this summer will include the Congress in their itinerary. The committees have been assured of the hearty coöperation of the Italian Government.

American Library Institute

An open meeting and a luncheon or dinner meeting of the Institute will be held in conjunction with the A. L. A. conference, Washington, May 13-18. Please send program suggestions to President Koopman.

Elections for 1929 are as follows:

1) As Member of the Institute Board, 1929-31: H. M. Lydenberg.

2) As Fellows to succeed themselves, 1929-38: Messrs Bishop, Bostwick, Currier, Hicks, Johnston, Josephson, Lydenberg, Merrill, Severance, Walter, Windsor.

3) As Fellow to fill out vacancy in term 1928-37: H. B. Van Hoesen.

4) As Fellows to fill out vacancies in term 1925-34: Miss Claribel Ruth Barnett, librarian U. S. department of Agriculture library, Washington, D. C.

Charles Harvey Brown, librarian Iowa State College library, Ames, Iowa

Chalmers Hadley, librarian Public library, Cincinnati, Ohio

W. S. Learned, Carnegie Foundation, New York, N. Y.

Clarence B. Lester, secretary, Wisconsin Free Library commission, Madison, Wis.

Ernest J. Reece, associate-professor of Library administration, School of library service, Columbia University, New York, N. Y.

Charles E. Rush, librarian, Teachers College library, Columbia University, New York, N. Y.

Joseph L. Wheeler, librarian, Enoch Pratt free library, Baltimore, Md.

Halsey W. Wilson, publisher, H. W. Wilson Company, 956 University Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Malcolm G. Wyer, librarian, Public library, Denver, Colo.

HENRY BARTLETT VAN HOESEN
Secretary-treasurer

At a recent lecture by John Drinkwater, a member of the audience asked him: Do you consider your new biography, Charles James Fox, your greatest achievement?

No, said Drinkwater, when I was 13 years old I created a record for my class at the Oxford high school in the long jump, 15 feet 8 inches, which has never been beaten.

Library Meetings

California—The sixth district meeting of the California library association was held in Los Angeles, January 12. The discussions of the morning dealt first with the general business of interest to the membership and then the discussion of books in professions other than librarianship. The afternoon was devoted to book needs of people in various relations. There was an attendance of nearly 1000 including the local librarians, many of whom were able to attend, if even for short periods. Miss Althea Warren of the Los Angeles public library was elected president.

Roger Boutell of the Tecolote Book Shop, Santa Barbara, discussed Selling books, making the following points:

The bookseller must conduct his business while knowing that he can hardly hope to please everybody. With 10,000 books being published yearly exclusive of a few classes, it is not possible to have every book called for. The greater per cent of publishing is done in New York and Boston and those on the Pacific Coast must allow time for transportation. The bookseller's remuneration is small for the price of his wares is settled beforehand. Thus if he makes his store profitable, he must put in other lines, deducting from the dignity of the work which might be his if he sold only books. Nevertheless it is a profession which gives much delight on account of the pleasant human relationships. In a bookshop, customers express their opinions freely and frankly, all of which adds zest to the life of the bookseller.

Reviewing books was shown by Carey McWilliams, literary critic of *Saturday Night*, to have developed into a glorious art. Mr McWilliams gave a history of the development of critics and discussed three types of criticism—criticism as interpretation, criticism as propaganda and criticism as the discoverer of ideas. To illustrate, Mr McWilliams gave three examples. Spokesmen, by T. K. Whipple, is

about men but not about consciousness and a review of this sort is mediocre. Mr Mencken in his Book of prefaces, is the exponent of the personal impressionistic manner. He is not so much an interpreter of authors as he is an advocate of his own ideas. Modern temper, by J. W. Krutch, published in sections in the *Atlantic*, represents the new type of criticism. Mr McWilliams referred to a short review written by Ambrose Bierce when he wrote of a slender volume of verse very much to the point, "The covers of this book are too far apart."

Frederic T. Blanchard of the University of California, Los Angeles, was unable to get to the meeting to speak about Teaching books.

As a culmination of the previous talks Hamlin Garland spoke about Writing books. He felt that the writing of books should have preceded the other phases dealing with books but judged that it was put at the end because most people think the writing of books is mere play and it would thus mean a happy ending for the morning's program. It is true that almost anyone can write a book—and almost anyone does. Writing is fun, it is the rewriting that comes hard, and proofreading is harder yet. A writer has to be not only a writer but also a critic. Mr Garland is not in sympathy with the hurried writing which is produced by many of the younger authors. He blames the decline of expert proofreading in publishing houses on the fact that the large part of writing of today is the jazz sort that doesn't matter if it is proof read. For this reason it isn't surprising if 6,000 out of 10,000 books published yearly prove to be ephemeral.

After telling that he had been a writer for 44 years, Mr Garland discussed his objectives in writing. These are to write the English language well and clearly, and also to consider how his writing will look best on the printed page. He rewrites sometimes 10 or 20 times to get the effect desired. He earned only one dollar a day when

writing the Son of the middle border. However certain critics consider re-writing an evidence that decay has set in. In proof of the value of rewriting, he quoted manuscripts of such great authors as Dickens, Whitman and Poe. He mentioned Stephen Crane and Mary E. Wilkins who composed in their minds and put final product on paper without revamping. Mr Garland feels that the troubles of a writer properly met become a joy. He said, "The older I grow the more I love the technique of my job."

We are facing a greater problem than the writers of any age have faced before us. The radio may mean the extinction of books. Mr Garland said, "We who write may soon become minstrels singing their books into the air. The moving pictures and automobile came and took the reader away from the fireside, then along came the radio and put him back again."

More than 500 people enjoyed a luncheon where each table of 10, a decimal group, was presided over by local hostesses. Various authors assembled spoke entertainingly. Dr Henry F. Hoyt gave some pioneer reminiscences. Mrs Dorothy Cottrell, author of *Singing gold*, was introduced from her wheel chair but did not speak because, she said, in Australia from whence she comes, only politicians talk at big public gatherings. Miss Warren introduced William J. Locke, English novelist, in terms of the life history of a librarian she knew. Mr Locke spoke interestingly about books and reading.

In the afternoon, the assemblage fell into three groups according to their interests. The cleavage was rather along the line of human interest, altho one rather expected to find the executive at the Personnel Management section, the reference worker with Expert Reader group and the children's librarians where they were discussing The Child in the light of new psychology.

Mrs Theodora R. Brewitt served as leader in the discussion of Personnel management. She stressed the fact that nothing is more important than

successful human relations and that there are many angles in these relations. The employer and employees form one group, the employee and his fellow workers another, and the worker and the public a third. These problems appear alike in large and small libraries and have a human appeal to the rank and file everywhere. The addresses given, emanated from men connected with large service corporations which have proved successful in working out personnel problems. Whether the commodity is oil or books, in each case the service of the employee is paid for, so the problems are somewhat identical.

E. M. Marston, connected with the Bank of Italy, Los Angeles, said that the work of their personnel department was divided into three parts, selection, training and promotion, advancement and welfare. The importance of selection is due to the futility of training the wrong material. The Bank of Italy tries to advance its people thru the ranks as fast as possible. Thus the largest turnover is always in the beginning group. Qualities of value in choosing a new employee are sincerity of purpose, initiative (or the engaging of boys who have future possibilities as executives instead of mere plodders), a good heredity, honesty, integrity, personal appearance. The Bank of Italy has a definite policy against the employment of married women. He discussed medical examinations, training classes, salary schedules, plans for improving employees, providing for employees' compensation and group life insurance. Each employee plays an important part in a successful organization. The employee must be happy, otherwise he cannot do justice to his work or to himself.

S. C. Haver, California Edison Company, developed the history of the personnel management idea, showing that many of the personnel workers came back into civil life after army experiences and he thought that army methods might be equally efficient in modern industry. His company has not adopted a centralized personnel con-

trol for two outstanding reasons: first, the geographical spread of their activities, and second, the good results that are attained from decentralized managerial responsibility. Their employment department serves in a purely advisory capacity, the management carefully avoiding any measure that might be considered paternalistic. Many provisions are made for the pleasure, profit and welfare of the employees of which they may or may not avail themselves. He made a plea for a common sense policy with the principal idea that the acid test of a thing is that it will reflect the best returns to the institution.

A talk by Jack P. French of the Richfield Oil Company was quite as snappy and that provoking as the title Know your oil, indicated. His talk purported to be a transcript of a "line" given to the prospective oil salesman. Some of the points made were: Buy from a man you can trust, buy an oil of a reputable trade mark, pay the full price. He said that selling is a matter of mental service in which a man to be successful: first, must know his oil, second, know the need of his patron, third, combine the two to complete the transaction. Mr. French said that the secret of getting along is the application of a human lubricant. This lubricant flows from the heart and is composed of such elements as kindness, tolerance, friendliness, patience, etc. It will conserve the power and resist the damage of competition. A lively discussion among many followed.

Alice Butterfield introduced the subject, The Expert reader, a discussion on how best to serve the learning public. Once the public library was expected to take care of people of all ages. Now the various schools must have libraries to fit the needs of the pupils.

Florence Hurst, librarian of the John Burroughs junior high school, discussed the Library conscience. Children should know that the library is a privilege and that they are the guardians of the books. About 50 per cent

of her pupils have cards. Two classes are scheduled for work in the library each day. A uniform course of study for all the schools in the matter of library instruction is being worked out. Instruction in the use of the library should not always be done by the librarian. In class instruction by the teacher, both teacher and pupils will learn better how to use the library. Inspirational work in reading belongs to the English department. Librarians should largely confine themselves to technical instruction.

Marjorie Van Deusen of Belmont senior high school reported on children's reaction to books they have read, showing different types of children and a wide range in the choice of books. By booklovers' clubs and student coöperation, much good is accomplished among those who don't know what to read.

Margaret Withington, librarian of Scripps College, reported that college students are given topics and expected to search for their own material. Results from pre-college reading lists are encouraging. A browsing room gives students an opportunity to do unrequired reading without supervision. The students should be impressed with the idea that a library is a workshop and that to take a book from other students is like taking a carpenter's tools away from him. Librarians should attend faculty meetings to keep in touch with the trend of instruction being given to students.

Frances Richardson of the William Fox studio, speaking of the professional worker as illustrated in the studio library, said that no great progress had been made in working out a system of procedure. A librarian must get the information wanted no matter how great the effort or what the effort and must get it promptly. The variety of subjects is multitudinous. She interested her audience by naming many of the subjects on which information was required.

Adult education as discussed by Mrs Jennie Herman of the San Diego pub-

lic library, showed how many of the eminent writers and educators were pioneers in adult education.

The group interested in "The child in the light of the new psychology" under the leadership of Marie Pinney, listened to Dr Ross Moore, a Los Angeles physician of mental diseases. Dr Moore said that the new psychology is nothing more or less than common sense applied to the problems of the universe. In the past, scientists have been so busy gathering facts that they have lost sight of the individual and so have lost sight of the true values of life. Librarians have erred by not seeing beyond their books to their borrowers.

"We cannot understand others, especially children, until we first understand ourselves and accept life's problem. Self realization makes work easy for the only difficulties are those which rise within ourselves."

Dr Arthur Timme of the Los Angeles city schools, gave a comprehensive paper on the Emotional development of the pre-school child. He insisted that childhood is the time adjustments to life should be made. He called three emotions original, fear, rage and love. All other emotions are combinations of these caused by conditioning. Good habits as well as bad ones may be formed. He traced education as being first merely imparting knowledge, then concerning itself with matters of health. The modern trend is toward development of proper emotional habits. Parents and educators should be responsible for meeting the child's emotional needs. These are affection, a feeling of security, recognition, response, and sufficient new and varied experiences.

Dr Miriam Van Waters of the Los Angeles juvenile court, author of several books on juvenile delinquency, talked on Books in relation to various emotions. She pointed out that a child is not a little adult. The transformation from the child world to that of the adult is gradual and indistinct. The child world, controlled by adults,

diminishes the creative output of the child because the adult fails to realize that child values differ from adult. Dr Waters stated that children have a need for great literature as all great souled people have. It is the librarian's duty and joy to stimulate the child into courses of reading, stressing those things which enable us to face life with integrity.

Dr and Mrs Fenton of the Whittier state school for boys, told of the unusual work they are doing. Mrs Fenton is greatly interested in the reading habits of the delinquent boy. She feels that thru books, he may get the romance and the adventure which he craves and which the modern age is unable to supply. Experimental dramatic work is giving good results. Several persons interested in psychological research and other social problems contributed to the discussion.

Chicago—William L. Bailey, professor of sociology of Northwestern University, chose The Library via the community for the subject of his address to the members of the Chicago library club, February 14.

Mr Bailey, an analyst of communities, said that communities, particularly urban ones, are complex organisms. Any survey of a community must take into account at least 300 items, agencies, institutions, etc. Of this group there are about a dozen main aspects—economic, health, educational, etc. The library is classed as one of the dozen major parts. "The library in the community is as vital as any and more so than the most. In no small degree is it true that 'as is the library, so is the community.'"

The rating of the library is based on circulation by the community analysts. Much importance is also attached to personnel of the library. The reference service should be improved so that the library would become a real centre of all types of information, not merely a book deposit.

The speaker urged the librarians to consider a new reader's card—perhaps not as the first card—which could contain such items as vocation, avocation,

and types of works read. In this way the librarians could more intelligently aid their readers.

Massachusetts—A joint meeting of the Massachusetts Library club and the Special Libraries association of Boston was held, February 8. At the morning session, opened with President Galen W. Hill of M. L. C. in charge, Edward H. Redstone, state librarian of Massachusetts, presented to the club a gavel and block made of wood from the U. S. S. Constitution, the gift of the past presidents of the club. The hearty thanks of the library club were voted to Attorney Henry L. Burnham for his valuable assistance to the committee in charge of clean literature.

John A. Lowe, assistant-librarian, Public library, Brooklyn, N. Y., and formerly Agent of the Massachusetts library commission, presented a paper on library problems under present day conditions. He mentioned the need of stronger personnel to be developed thru shorter hours, higher salaries and better opportunities for rest, recreation and culture, a program of progress which would give change in emphasis and reorganized activities instead of traditional service. The work of the library is two-fold, reaching with some service the masses and giving special attention to the serious student. Mr Lowe called the latter the more valuable object and had little sympathy for the casual reader without aim or object. The hours of opening might be shortened and the amount spent for fiction curtailed, he thinks.

A lively discussion followed the paper. Sunday opening of the library, the dividing line between fiction and literature and the library's attitude toward fiction were discussed as well as the relation of the public library to the school library in the community. Various lines of procedure had their exponents, Brookline, Watertown and others.

The Special Libraries conducted the afternoon session with President Howard Stebbins in the chair. The central theme was Boston centers of information. Charles F. D. Belden, Public library, pointed out the service offered by

the Business branch of the Boston public library. Holland Hudson, distribution manager of the World Peace Foundation, told of the Boston headquarters with its wealth of material on national problems and its willingness to supply personal service. George W. Lee of Stone and Webster, made a plea for a center of library information in Boston with an organization that could serve as a clearing house and give much practical help to the libraries in the vicinity.

At the close of the afternoon, Professor Charles Townsend Copeland gave an hour of Readings, an enjoyable treat. There were about 500 library representatives at this meeting.

At the dinner meeting where 125 persons gathered, greetings were given by Mrs A. A. Packard, recently appointed member of the Free Public Library commission and president of the Massachusetts Federation of Women's clubs. The principal speaker was Frank W. Wright of the Massachusetts Department of Education. He spoke of the public library in relation to the community, to the children, thru coöperation with the schools, and to citizenship and civic advancements, terming all this, "At your service."

Minnesota—The Twin City catalogers' round-table held its January meeting at the University of Minnesota, Miss Arms of the University library presiding.

A report on new reference books was made by Miss Lawson of the University library.

Miss Starr of the Hill reference library, gave a very interesting account of the A. L. A. midwinter meeting.

Miss Norden of the Minnesota Historical library, read Mr Merrill's paper on the Code for classifiers, which he had lent to be read at this meeting.

On vote, an expression of appreciation of Miss Mann's book on Classification and cataloging and Mr Merrill's book was passed, and copies of it were sent to Miss Mann, Mr Merrill, Dr W. W. Charters and to the American Library Association.

KATHARINE FOSTER
Secretary-treasurer

Pennsylvania—The meeting of the Pennsylvania library club, Dr Thomas Lynch Montgomery presiding, was held, February 15, at the Free library in Philadelphia. Dr Montgomery introduced John L. Morrison, who gave a most interesting lecture on The Passing of the wooden Indian.

Mr Morrison pointed out that wooden Indians were not indigenous to American soil. They were known in England in the reign of James I. They were used for an advertisement of tobacco which came from America and it was in America that the wooden Indian achieved his greatest grandeur.

While the making of wooden Indians was once quite a trade, only one man who engaged in that work is now alive. He is a Dane. The oldest figure used as a sign is in London and is probably 160 years old.

The wooden Indian reached the height of his popularity from the sixties to the seventies in America. The fires in the great cities took the majority of the wooden Indians to the happy-hunting-ground. Many of these figures are now in museums, tho in Pennsylvania some have found homes on country and suburban estates.

Puget Sound—The Puget Sound library club met in Tacoma, December 28, with about 90 members present.

The president, Mrs Mary R. Edson, librarian of the Rhodes branch library addressed the club in regard to Principles of service and salesmanship as found in a department store, which could be applied to librarians' work. This was followed by Helmer L. Webb of Seattle public library, who talked on The Library as a business concern.

Mrs Page Hosmer, a member of the Tacoma *News Tribune* staff, gave a most interesting resumé of current books, from the point of view of the lay-reader. A report of County Library progress was presented by J. M. Hitt, state librarian, who outlined the effort in behalf of the pending bill in the state legislature.

Miss Edith Morse of Everett public library, was elected president for the next meeting.

Coming meetings

The A. L. A. will hold its annual meeting for 1929 in Washington City, May 13-18.

The annual meeting of the Rhode Island library association will be held at Westerly, June 6, 1929.

The annual meeting of the National University Extension Association will be held in Austin, Texas, May 13-15.

The meeting of the American Association for Adult Education will be at Chapel Hill, North Carolina, May 20-22.

The New Jersey library association and the Pennsylvania library club will hold the thirty-third annual joint meeting at Atlantic City, March 8-9. Headquarters will be at the Hotel Chelsea as usual.

The midwinter meeting of the Western Massachusetts library club will be held at the Forbes library, Northampton, on Thursday, March 7. A session is to be devoted to discussion of important books of the year, including fiction, non-fiction and juveniles.

The program of the ninth annual State educational conference, to be held at the Ohio State University, April 4-6, contains the names of more than 40 of the leading educators and school administrators in the country. The P. T. associations are represented by a number of the leaders in the work. Dhan Gopal Mukerji is listed among the lecturers.

A rural library extension conference is being called by the American Library Association for March 26 in Chicago. Organizations and individuals interested in rural life (outside the library profession) are being invited, as the purpose is to bring to bear on the problem of rural library service the experience of national rural and educational agencies and to develop, thru informal conference, methods of furthering the spread of books and library facilities to the many rural people now without them.

Interesting Things in Print

A very commendable list of child welfare books has been distributed by the Public library of San Leandro, California.

The United States Government Printing Office has issued a pamphlet covering Analyses of some English book-binding leathers.

No. 28 of the publications of the California library association is made up of the *Handbook* and *proceedings* of the annual meeting of the C. L. A., 1928.

The *Spring List* for 1929 of the Oxford University Press has been issued. The list is annotated and covers 15 classifications besides a description of the Oxford Bibles.

The Public library, Kansas City, has for distribution some copies of the wartime editorials written by Theodore Roosevelt for the *Kansas City Star* of that time.

A volume of the various collections of poems for the different holidays, compiled by the Carnegie library school association, has been issued by the H. W. Wilson Company under the title, *Our holidays in poetry*.

The Public library of Newark, N. J., has issued a second series of Surprising statements from new books, the popular little booklet whose appearance in 1927 gave much pleasure and profit accompanied by gratitude to those who were fortunate enough to be able to indulge in a study of it.

The Public library, Kansas City, Missouri, thru Clara L. Voight, head of the teachers' division of the reference department, has prepared a directory of practically all recognized educational opportunities offered in the community. Hours of class periods are recorded, aviation, business, correspondence, dancing, dramatic art, music, nursing, sewing and tailoring and many other subjects are listed. The public is showing appreciation of the opportunity offered.

Bulletin no. 3 of the International Institute of Agriculture located in Rome

contains the report of the secretary-general on the progress of the International Institute covering the period between the eighth general assembly and the ninth general assembly which latter was held October 12, 1928. Every phase of the work of the Institute is analyzed and presented. The report of the library which contains 628,689v., deals mostly with library accessions and contents.

The *Loyola Educational Index* which has been published heretofore in Chicago in connection with the Loyola University, has been discontinued. The H. W. Wilson Company has announced an educational index and those connected with the *Loyola Educational Index*, feeling that the field is not sufficiently large for both, have decided to discontinue their work. Miss Voegelin, who did the work for the *Loyola Index*, has joined the H. W. Wilson Company. Cash received for renewals and 1929 subscriptions to the *Loyola Educational Index* will be returned to the senders.

The November number of the *Research Bulletin* of the N. E. A. carries a very complete discussion of the question, Can the nation afford to educate its children? The subject is thoroly dealt with, having discussions from able men in various lines of interest, economical and social as well as educational. A number of tables abound and charts are used wherever possible. The pamphlet, which is no. 5 of vol. 6, carries the index to vol. 6. This is an important document for the reference department, particularly that part dealing with appropriations of public funds.

Roland Mulhauser, a student in the Western Reserve library school and in charge of the Library of Research in the social sciences, has prepared a bibliography on Library service to negroes. Mr Mulhauser states that the purpose of his bibliography is "to present the scattered material that has been written on library service to negroes, in a form that will allow it a maximum usefulness." He has evidently made a wide range in his search

for material. An index to the bibliography is a valuable feature. A limited number of copies are available at five cents each to cover postage.

L. A. Kalbach, acting commissioner of education, Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C., announces that a series of articles relating to the history of county libraries will be issued thru the publication, *School Life*, in its forthcoming issues for the current year. The arrangement for these articles was made thru Miss Edith A. Lathrop with the co-operation of Carl H. Milam, secretary of the American Library Association. Articles that have already appeared have been by Edith A. Lathrop, Julia G. Babcock, May Dexter Henshall and Bertine Weston. Articles in coming numbers will be by Sarah B. Askew, Lillian W. Barkdoll, Margaret E. Wright, Charlotte Templeton and Carl H. Milam.

The little pamphlet issued in December entitled, *If not, why not*, by Mrs Laura Steffens Suggett, San Francisco, relating to the necessity of and possibilities in founding county libraries is followed by another sent out in January entitled, *If laws, what laws*, in order to have library service free, equal, economical and complete for every resident of the state, in school and out. The type of a county library law and the provisions for library service which it should cover, are set out and also, municipal library law, school library law, state library law in any community are discussed. The answer to the question, *If laws, what laws*, is comprehensively given in the leaflet.

A world motor transport library printed in four languages is to be issued by the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce. These books, printed in English, German, French and Spanish, are to be sent to all leading publications abroad, to government officials and to all commercial and automotive organizations that wish them for reference. The series will consist of pamphlets dealing with the fundamentals of motor trade and transport.

A Journal of Adult Education is to be published four times a year and the first number was received, February 1. While the publishers announce it as an experiment, if the first number is the model for those to follow, there is no question about the place that will be made for it. The title of the publication represents accurately the contents of the magazine.

Judging by this first number, it is not to be a journal of theory. The contributors are men and women who have shot out the definite principles underlying the problem of adult education. One of the especially significant things is the address by President Glen Frank of Wisconsin, on *The Firing line of democracy*. It would bring about a revolution in the minds of real educators if its precepts were to form a part of the belief of everyone engaged in educational work.

A symposium on the "recent trends in librarianship" in response to John Cotton Dana's question, *Is adult education a fad?*, is furnished by a number of librarians. On the whole, they answer the question in the negative, the majority pointing out that it is simply an old process under a new name with additional emphasis and publicity given to the work inasmuch as new emphasis and publicity are the order of the day in all efforts, even among the criminals. The situation against which Mr Dana warns is nothing new and as pointed out by Mr Roden of Chicago, the matter is entirely voluntary, so why should librarians or anyone else for that matter, seek to deter it, even tho it might not be what he or a multitude of others might perform in a definite way. Free libraries are for the people's use and when a disposition to use them is present, far be it from anybody to lessen that inclination.

So it goes on thruout the 112 pages, every one of which carries important messages on the educational field. A successful and valuable future may be presaged for the *Journal of Adult Education*. None will more heartily welcome such a career than LIBRARIES.

Recent bulletins issued in a limited number by the United States Department of Labor, Women's Bureau, are:

No. 61—The Development of minimum wage laws in the United States, 1912 to 1927.

No. 65—The Effects of labor legislation on the employment opportunities of women.

Owing to size and expense, only a limited number will be available for free distribution but copies will be furnished while the supply lasts. Later, copies may be obtained from the Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. *Bulletin no. 61*, 90 cents; *Bulletin no. 65*, 75 cents.

Bulletin no. 68 (released soon) is a summary of the effects of labor legislation on the employment opportunities of women, and will be sent to the entire mailing list.

An interesting pamphlet has been issued by the Department of Middle American Research, Tulane University, Louisiana, setting out the story of its activities and making a presentation of its aims. Its work is confined to Northwestern South America and Southern Central America, from which region much interesting material valuable from a historical standpoint has been collected and is now in the Department of Middle American Research at Tulane University.

The library contains many rarities in valuable documents, valuable manuscripts on the discovery of America and an unusually rich section on linguistics including texts in and commentaries on many Indian dialects very little known. A number of noteworthy collections have accumulated among which are the Pepper collection giving information on the Indians of the Southwest, the Rudolf Schuller collections on American Indian languages, the Mackie collection on Middle America and the West Indies, and many others both in English and Spanish.

Besides its anthropological and archaeological books, the library contains books on travel, botany, biology and cartography of Central America with an extensive collection of books about Mexico and the Central American republics. The library is in charge of Mrs Robert J. Usher.

Baroda and its libraries, by Newton Mohul Dutt, curator of state libraries, Baroda, a volume of more than 200 pages, makes an interesting presentation of library service in Baroda, tracing the development of the work from its introduction in 1910 to today, when there is a network of libraries serving over 60 per cent of the population of the state. It shows that the center of library activities is in the library in Baroda from which has come the inspiration and example that has led to the development of libraries both great and small under the leadership of H. H. The Maharaja Gaekwad, who has in the volume, a wonderfully inspiring address on Human relations. Illustrations and statistics add greatly to the presentation of Mr Dutt.

Ireland, scarcely represented of late in the book catalogs, challenges attention this time by three important biographies. First is William J. Walsh, Archbishop of Dublin, a real contribution to Irish history because of the prominence and activity of the archbishop in the political agitations of Ireland. The second is Life of William O'Brien, a story of a Nationalist leader; and the editor of *United Ireland*, an opposition paper whose spirit was almost unprecedented in journalism. The third and perhaps the most remarkable is, Letters and leaders of my day, by Timothy Healy, ex-Governor-General of the Irish Free State, the most fascinating book of reminiscences issued for many years. It contains a series of vivid reports of current events, scores of good stories and political revelations of importance.—*London letter* by H. W. Horwell in *New York Times*.

The Russell Sage Foundation under the editorship of Fred S. Hall is issuing a Yearbook of social work. The new yearbook will include articles on 32 different national organizations in the field of social work and additional articles on 42 topics in that field. It is proposed that two kinds of articles be included: about each national organization, its his-

tory, the services it is prepared to render, the character of its publications, its periodicals, if any, or its directory of local affiliated agencies; and about each field of social work, the history of that field, briefly sketched with an account of the developments of the year as shown by changes in methods of work, new emphases, laws enacted during the year, books and articles published, etc.

The Russell Sage Foundation will welcome suggestions from any who have had difficulty in obtaining needed current information concerning their own or allied fields of work.

Castles in Spain and other enchantments
by Bertha L. Gunterman. Longmans.

Spanish folk-literature has its peculiar bewitchment. Romance, chivalry and magic it possesses as do other European folk-literatures. But it is the dark Moorish element that lends to the Spanish such a weird musical strain. This Moorish influence, from Africa, with its knights and captives, Moors and lovely princesses, treasures of gold and enchanted palaces, makes delightful, Miss Bertha L. Gunterman's *Castles in Spain* and other enchantments.

There is so little to offer the young girl who has grown away from simple fairy tales, yet craves imaginative romance. So the children's librarians will welcome this collection of unusual stories, that span the literary gulf between fairy tales and the Arthurian and Carolingian cycles of romance.

In a certain children's library, *Castles in Spain*, a few weeks ago, was placed on the shelves along with a number of other new and attractive volumes. It was chosen immediately by an eager young reader, and has since been chosen again and again, thus proving its gift to charm.

FRANCES JENKINS OL'COTT

The first number of the quarterly issued by the Metropolitan library in Peiping, China, *The Metropolitan Library Record*, has been issued. It is intended to convey an accurate record of what the Metropolitan library is doing, and to keep those interested in touch with its activities. The *Record* is to be published in English and will

have in mind material of interest to a very large number of foreign friends.

The first two numbers are to be devoted to a union list of books relating to China, found in Peiping libraries. The Metropolitan library is affiliated with a number of scientific institutions which will place at the library's disposal much material for the help of its readers and also, act as a distributing center in the Peiping area.

The Metropolitan library is to be a depository library for the League of Nations publications. A special room in the new building now under construction has been set aside for books on international law and Chinese foreign relations in memory of John Hay, to honor his efforts to maintain and strengthen the integrity of China.

Subject headings in theology, a synthetic index to some recent systems of theological library classification together with the A. L. A. subject headings in religion. Compiled as a basis for standardizing theological subject headings for library and bibliographical use. By Ernest Cushing Richardson, Yardley, Pa., F. S. Cook, 1928, \$2.

It is gratifying to librarians of theological libraries to see Dr Richardson returning to his first love, in giving attention again to the special needs of the theological libraries. Dr Richardson is himself a graduate of a theological seminary and was for a number of years the very capable and efficient librarian of his *alma mater*, Hartford Theological Seminary. The reviewer happens to know that Dr Richardson has been rendering some highly prized help in recent years to Auburn Theological Seminary in the organization of their library.

The present publication grew out of the author's work as consultant in bibliography and research of the Library of Congress. This great library, along with some other large libraries, has been giving special attention recently to the reclassification and recataloging of books on religion. It is found that there is a great lack of uniformity in the subject headings suggested for such books in the leading systems of classification. What Dr Richardson has done, in the book before us, is to bring together in a syn-

thetic index the subject headings for religious books in the following systems of classifications: Brown, Dewey, Cutter, Library of Congress and that of the Union Theological Seminary library, New York City, together with the A. L. A. List of Subject Headings. He has printed the results of his compilation "in the expectation," as he tells us in his preface, "that theological libraries and professors who have decided opinions on the shortcomings of existing library usage will coöperate in the standardizing effort."

Even a cursory examination of the book before us shows how much such standardization is needed.

A number of librarians of theological libraries feel the need of greater coöperative effort among ourselves and we welcome the stimulus afforded by Dr Richardson's latest book.

JOHN F. LYONS
Librarian

McCormick Theological Seminary
Chicago

Not So Slow

An advertisement carried in a newspaper in Columbia, Missouri, by the Missouri Store Company, would indicate that Missouri intelligence is "not so slow." It is possible that one from the outside of the state who feels an obligation to "show" the man from Missouri always, might "fall down" himself. The University of Missouri is at Columbia.

The appeal of the Missouri Store Company of Columbia is as follows:

Faculty and Students and Citizens

A recent visitor to our store said we had the greatest collection of educational books in existence, so why not another Oxford in Missouri?

There are over one million books on our second floor.

You are invited to visit us and read any book on our shelves without cost.

Library Schools

The Drexel Institute

Students of the Drexel library school have chosen as their special care the founding of a small library for the John B. Campbell Folk School, at Brasstown, Cherokee County, North Carolina. The selection of books for a mountain community offers many problems and it has been deemed the wise thing to select books for the children, hoping that this will interest the parents. The books will be classified, cataloged and made ready for circulation before being shipped.

Study of the organization of the work of a public library has been supplemented by lectures on the organization of a college library by Dr C. B. Shaw, of Swarthmore, Pa. The class also had the pleasure of hearing Ernest J. Reece lecture upon library buildings, illustrating his talk with lantern slides.

The students acted as host at the District library meeting held at Drexel, February 13, and presented the play entitled *Exit Miss Lizzie Cox*. Librarians from the metropolitan district gathered in the picture gallery for the meeting. Evelyn L. Matthews, state organizer, spoke on Extension work and Marie H. Law read a paper on classification and subject-headings. Margaret Jackson, librarian of the Hoyt library, Kingston, Pa., spoke on New books and Kathrine McAlarney, Free library of Philadelphia, on New books for children.

Much interest was manifested in the marriage of Elizabeth J. G. Gray, Drexel '26, to Morgan F. Vining, of the University of North Carolina.

The death of Mrs Alexander Van Rensselaer, the daughter of Anthony J. Drexel, founder of the Institute, has removed from the student activities a dearly beloved patroness. Her gentle presence and unfailing generosity endeared her to the students.

ANNE W. HOWLAND
Director

Los Angeles public library

Florence Blunt, now on sabbatical leave from Simmons College, told the students something about the library school in Boston. Miss Harriet Eddy,

formerly county library organizer in California and recently returned from Russia, gave a most interesting talk about library conditions in Russia. She was accompanied by a Russian visitor, Mme Anna Kravtchenko, who is in California by direction of the Russian government to study the county library system. It was rather surprising to hear that books are to be found everywhere in Russia but for the most part are paper bound and so quickly used up. Mme Kravtchenko said that books play an important part in the education of very young children and they are mostly true stories of biography, history, natural science, etc. No fiction is given to children under ten years of age. One of the chief aims of the Russian educational system is to train in straight thinking and it is not thought that story books in early years contribute to this end.

Students are using the second half-year in the elective courses, cataloging, reference work, children's literature, administration of children's rooms are scheduled under the heads of the departments of the Los Angeles public library. An elective course with four classes, on instruction to school classes in the use of the library is offered by Miss Livsey, head of the teachers' and children's department. After attending demonstration classes, the students will give instruction themselves under supervision.

The students attended the sixth district library meeting in January at which Hamlin Garland, William J. Locke and other non-librarians spoke. Visits to the Municipal Reference library and the County library made pleasant breaks in the class routine.

Mrs Gudrum Thorne-Thomsen, formerly of Chicago and now connected with the Edward Yeoman progressive school at Ojai, California, recently gave an afternoon to the library school. Mrs Thorne-Thomsen was most entertaining and told stories as inimitably as in her Chicago days. Her excellent suggestions about story-telling were appreciated by the students.

Alumni Changes

Mrs Nancy B. Vaughn, '20, was married on January 28 to Norris Shreve in New York City.

Katherine R. Woods, '19, is librarian of Plumas County free library, Quincy, Calif. instead of Placer, as was incorrectly stated in earlier notes.

Elnora Smutzler, '26, who has been assistant in the library school for three years, became the first assistant at Figueroa branch library, March 1. Her place in the school will be filled temporarily by Katherine Folger, '21.

George E. Chase, '20, has resigned as first assistant in the science and industry department of the Los Angeles public library. He and Mrs Chase are planning an extended world tour.

Recent appointments as branch librarians in Los Angeles public library include the following: Mrs Ione Morrison Rider, '15, to the San Pedro branch; Roberta Bowler, '21, to the Sidney Lanier branch; Gertrude Bergman, '27, to the new La Cienega branch.

Pratt Institute

The second term has progressed quietly and steadily, the students having been singularly free from illness, considering the fact that an influenza epidemic has raged around us.

The two main themes for the term are book selection and library administration. The guest lecturers supply the substance of the latter. So far the class has heard Margaret Jackson on the small library, Charles E. Rush on the medium-sized library, F. F. Hopper on the large library system, Ernestine Rose and Mrs Anne Hutchins on the branch library in its relation to the system and in its adjustment to its neighborhood, Hazel Clark of Burlington County, New Jersey, on the country library, and Rebecca Rankin and Mary Parker on special libraries and the keeping of business files.

One unexpected pleasure was a talk by Mr Bostwick on library conditions in China, and another was a visit from Mrs Mildred Gardner Collar, who taught cataloging here for some years. Mrs Gardner is a director of the Redwood Athenaeum at Newport, R. I., and gave the class a little talk on ex-librarians as library trustees.

Following the talks on binding, the class visited the Chivers Bindery and gained a vivid first-hand realization of the successive steps in the making of a book.

The annual luncheon of the Graduates' association took place on January 19 at

the Hotel McAlpin with about 90 in attendance. Frederic G. Melcher of the *Publishers Weekly* was the guest of honor. The following were elected officers of the Graduates' association for the coming year:

President, Enid Hawkins; vice-president, Dorothy Hull; secretary, Rosamond Cruikshank; treasurer, Mrs Elvira Williams.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE
Vice-director

St Louis library school

The second semester of class work began on February 18, after four weeks of practical work and visits to the libraries of several kinds in St Louis.

The practical work included assignments to the public libraries of Evansville, Indiana, and Webster Groves, Missouri, as well as of St Louis.

A valuable lecture on Recent books of history by Dr Roland G. Usher, author and professor of history at Washington University was given.

The introductory talk on Adult Education was given by F. K. W. Drury, executive assistant, American Library Association headquarters. Mr Drury's textbook on Selection and acquisition of books for libraries, is being used for assigned reading in the Book selection and Library technique courses.

Two of our graduates are serving on the Board of Trustees of the Public library, Kirkwood, Missouri: Josephine Farrington, assistant supervisor of Children's work in the St Louis public library, and Mrs Dorothy Halyburton Suits. Another graduate, Mrs Eugenia Marsh Becker, holds the position of librarian.

James Alonzo Howard, '28, has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Hammond, Indiana.

Jane Johns, '26, formerly on the staff of the St Louis public library, occupies a similar position in the Circulation department of the Public library, Flint, Michigan.

Cleo Parsley, '25, assistant in the Reader's advisory service of the St Louis public library, has accepted the position of acting supervisor of branches, Flint, Michigan.

Mrs Eleanor B. Manning, '24, is the librarian of the Public library, Webster Groves, Missouri. One of the trustees is Charles H. Compton, assistant-librarian of the St Louis public library and instructor in the Library school.

HARRIET P. SAWYER
Principal

Simmons College

The term since Christmas has been notable for the contributions made by visiting lecturers. In the Book selection courses, members of the Simmons College faculty spoke on their specialties: Dr Mark, Books on chemistry; Dr Campbell, Books on physics; Dr Harley, Books on psychology; Mr Hilliard, Books on public health. John Clair Minot, literary editor of the *Boston Herald*, talked on the new books, and Miss Alice M. Jordan of the Boston public library on Children's work.

The course in History and administration of libraries has been enriched by a most interesting series in five lecture periods on The library building, by Clarence E. Sherman, assistant-librarian of the Providence public library; talks by Edna Phillips, of the Division of public libraries of Massachusetts, on Library work with foreigners; and on Library administration by John A. Lowe, assistant-librarian at Brooklyn, New York.

Gardner M. Jones, librarian of the Public library, Salem, Massachusetts, addressed the school on February 14.

The students attended sessions of the Massachusetts Library Club meeting in Boston on February 8, and have made excursions to the Widener and Baker libraries at Harvard.

Much of the time of the staff has been devoted to co-operation with the Library Curriculum Study committee by extensive criticism of the textbooks by Miss Mann and Mr Drury.

Miss Phyllis Brown of the class '29 has the pleasure of being the first to have her plans for next year definitely settled. She is to be children's librarian of the Thrall library, Middletown, N. Y.

The October questionnaire of the library school brought the sad news of the death of Mary Emery, Simmons, '07-'08, last May. Miss Emery for many years had been librarian of the Public library, Tilton, New Hampshire, and Tilton Seminary.

Lillian Ginsburg, '28, has accepted the position of temporary cataloger at the Boston Teachers College library.

Elizabeth Lewis, '23, has accepted a position in the reference room of the Boston public library.

The many friends of Annie E. Harwood, '13, will be grieved to learn of her death on January 29, at Athol, Massachusetts.

Miss Harwood had been an indexer at the H. W. Wilson Company, New York, for the last three years.

It was also with regret that the library school learned of the death of Emily Lovell, '27, in January. Miss Lovell was for more than a year a reference assistant in the Frick Art Reference library, New York City, but was forced to resign her position last spring on account of ill health.

Mary Washburn, '24, sailed March 1, to join the staff of the American Library in Paris.

Dorothy Wing, '27, has become cataloger at the University of Minnesota library.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY
Director

University of Washington

A new course, called Elementary library science is being offered in the library school next year. This is a three-hour course extending thru three quarters, entrance permitted at beginning of fall quarter only. This course is adapted to the small school library and open to senior teaching-majors, interested in teacher-librarian positions.

Jean Whitman, '28, has resigned from the Public library, New Westminster, B. C., to become librarian at Nanaimo, B. C. She succeeds Gladys Garesche, '27, who has gone to the Public library, Vancouver, B. C.

Clara Goold, '27, has accepted a position in the Public library, Everett.

Alethea Bleecker, '28, formerly assistant in the Oregon State College library, has gone to the Seattle public library as catalog assistant.

Mrs Florence Davis, '15, has been appointed librarian of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce.

Mrs Marie Alfonso, '21, has been appointed an assistant professor in library science, University of Washington library school.

W. E. HENRY
Dean

Western Reserve University

One of the pleasant events in December was a visit from Frances H. Kelly, principal of the Carnegie library school, Pittsburgh, who brought greetings from the school and told the students something of the work of a neighboring library school.

Two informing and enjoyable lectures were given in January by Louise Prouty, vice-librarian of the Cleveland public library; one on the preparation of Book talks to the public, the other a Book

talk on biography. Leta Adams, head of the order department of the Cleveland public library, gave a lecture on the subject of Book buying.

Dr Charles F. Thwing, president-emeritus of Western Reserve University, gave a delightful talk on Modes of thinking, which was full of the spirit of his rich and cultivated life and experience.

A study and discussion of the field and accomplishments of the American Library Association is concluded with the class "drive" for 100 per cent membership.

The first semester closed February 2, and the new semester marks the beginning of the general courses in the book crafts: Binding by Gertrude Stiles and Printing by Otto F. Ege. Two new subjects in the school course are also beginning: Psychology of adolescence by Professor C. E. Rush and Significant tendencies in education by Professor Collier.

Martha Wynne Abell, '15, on leave of absence from the University of Rochester, is a student at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles.

Mildred B. Potter, '17, is now librarian, Business branch, Public library, Hartford, Conn.

Marguerite Eldridge, '18, is now librarian of the Rawlings junior high school, Cleveland.

Carol G. Wilford, '22 (Sr. Ch. course) has recently taken charge of the department of children's books with the New York publishers, Robert M. McBride & Co.

Dorothy McConnell, '24 (now Mrs J. C. Hanna) is children's librarian, City Point branch, Public library, Boston, Mass.

Dorothy Berryman, '26 (Sr. Ch. course) is now assistant to the head of the Children's department, Public library, Los Angeles.

Eleanor D. Weakley, '27, was married December 22, 1928, to John Nolen, Jr., of Philadelphia.

Gizella M. Heim, '28, is now a cataloger of foreign books in the Public library, Indianapolis, Ind.

ALICE S. TYLER
Dean

London, England

A pamphlet giving information concerning the School of librarianship at University College, University of London (1928-29) has been issued. Full information concerning the school, the

faculty, the requirements, particulars of the courses, regular and special, tuition, and other information is given, with the various opportunities afforded by the college outside of the circle of the library school. An interesting point is that five members of the Library Association are members of the School of librarianship committee.

Pan-American Union

The exchange of literature between Pan American countries, together with the establishment of library schools in Latin American universities, is urged by the Governing Board of the Pan American Union, according to an announcement by the Union on February 7.

The establishment of library schools or chairs of library science in the several universities of the Latin American countries; the establishment in Latin America of associations of librarians and bibliographers; the translation and publication in Spanish, Portuguese and French of standard textbooks on library science; and the translation and publication in Spanish, Portuguese and English of the best literary, scientific, bibliographic and historical productions by citizens of the American Republics, was urged by the Governing Board of the Pan American Union.

Directions for Reading

Read while aching with flu,
Others may be worse off than you;
Read while waiting for Joe,
You won't mind so much if he's slow;
Read while waiting for Mary,
Her hair's growing out, and it's wary;
Read while awaiting your car.
It's better than fuming by far;
If you've lost both the maid and the cook,
Just sit down and read a good book.

Wanted—The following numbers of the *Reader's Digest*, Pleasantville, New York, are urgently needed in connection with a study of contemporary literature: July to December, 1925, and volumes one to three inclusive (May, 1922 to April, 1925). Address Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, Chicago.

Program of A. L. A. Meeting

The full programs of the A. L. A. meetings in Washington in May are not yet adopted. The following has been scheduled:

The first general session will be held on Monday, May 13, at 8:30 p. m. Miss L. A. Eastman, the president, will give her address. Dr A. E. Bostwick will speak on Democracy and the library.

On Tuesday morning, will be held the second general session. The reports of the officers and committees will be heard. This will be followed by a joint meeting with the Special Libraries association. Miss Eastman and Mr Cady, president of the Special Libraries association, will speak. Mr Lydenberg will discuss Special libraries in public libraries. Robert Irwin, director of the Bureau of Research and education, American Foundation for the Blind, will speak on Libraries for the blind. The third general session will be on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock, program to be announced later.

The fourth general session will be held, May 18, 10 a. m. Dr S. P. Keppel, president of the Carnegie Corporation, will speak on Adult education and reading courses. Everett D. Martin of the People's Institute, New York, will talk on A Liberal education.

The report of the Committee on resolutions and the Committee on elections will be given.

Other addresses will be given at each general session and in the section meetings. Other announcements will be given next month.

A modern public library is very like a progressive business house. It must, for one thing, keep in the closest possible touch with the needs and conditions of the public. Again, it prospers in proportion to how far it can render useful service. It must ever be revising its methods in the light of experience, and it must, from time to time, introduce fresh activities and improved organization.—*Ipswich Library Journal*.—L. R. McColvin.

Department of School Libraries

Books are the true levelers. They give to all who faithfully use them, the society, the spiritual presence, of the best and greatest of our race.—W. E. Channing

Provision of Books for Elementary Schools¹

L. Stanley Jast, chief librarian, Manchester, England

(Concluded)

But there is some very pretty writing dominating the exposition. "Every child," he (Quiller-Couch) assures us, "wants to learn." How devoutly every teacher must wish it did. But what's this? "It must, as every mother and nurse knows, be coaxed to realize itself, to develop, to grow from its individual root. It may be coaxed and trained." There is, then, here a faint suggestion of a snag—that word "training." The "air and sunshine" theory is not *quite* all-sufficing. The familiar simile of the garden carries a little way further into reality. Gardening is not all air and sunshine. Those of us who struggle in the garden are aware that not only *may* plants be "coaxed and trained," but a good deal of very determined discipline must be imposed on many plants if results are to be achieved. If buds are to be nipped off in order that those which remain may be worthy of the gardener, if plants have to be staked and tied in order that they may grow in the direction in which we want them to grow, and not left to develop at their own sweet will, if a hundred other operations have to be performed which I need not particularize, by way of "coaxing" the plants to behave as plants in a respectable garden ought to behave, then there would appear to be something in the nature of an art of gardening, a technique—might I go so far as to suggest, a discipline?

And so, to drop the simile, and speak of the teacher, is it not a little absurd to traverse the formula in which I described the school as a place where self-knowledge is acquired "in an atmosphere of restraint or discipline," and the library as a place where you have "self-development in an atmosphere of free-

dom?" That the discipline of the modern school is not a very tense discipline, that the pupil is permitted "to gang his ain gait" a great deal more than was the case formerly, that the teacher is no longer so ostentatiously the "top dog" as he once was, that the child, in fact, has "come into his own," is sufficiently evidenced by the ill-concealed impatience with which—as I have before remarked—the educationist rejects the opprobrious term, and insists on the freedom which the modern school permits—nay, one would be almost inclined to say, enforces. This is the more curious when contrasted with the sad repute into which that word "freedom" has fallen in the political and social spheres. Or is it rather that the world, apart from a few poets and visionaries, has never had any real use for freedom, in the sense of being able to do as one likes, but only in the sense of being able to do what other people—governments, majorities, unions and so forth—are of opinion that one ought to like?

After all, dictionary definitions don't matter—words are not things. And for my purpose in this argument I am willing to accept—in order to get along—the statement of the *Adult Education Committee of the Ministry of Reconstruction*, 1919, in their report on libraries, in which, commenting on the foregoing formula, and my exposition of it, they state that the antithesis between the teacher and the librarian is "too sharply defined." I will even pass, without protest, the extraordinary claim that we cannot outgrow the school; in a word, that the school instead of being merely a preparation for life, is life itself, and that you, ladies and gentlemen, are the high-priests of life. If the claim makes some of your modesties a little uneasy, you can take courage from the fact that we librarians are often referred to by kindly people on platforms who open public libraries, as "high-priests of literature," and I've never known a librarian

¹From an address in a course for a Teachers Union at Leeds University.—By permission.

blush at this exaltation of his office, and why should you? We can lap up any amount of that sort of thing, and your stomachs are doubtless no more squeamish than ours. *Be* the antithesis between the school with its "discipline," and the library with its "freedom," defined too sharply, at least it is implied that there is an antithesis, define it how we will. If the emphasis is on the freedom of the school today, it may well be on the discipline tomorrow. The pendulum which has swung once may swing again. There will be systems of education as long as there are systems of religion, of philosophy, of ethics, of social science. But it is difficult to suppose that the business of the librarian will remain other than what it is, to supply books, arrange books, and direct the reader to the books he wants, and, so far as it is possible, to the books he needs, which are very often, of course, not the books he wants. And his success in doing this will depend very largely on the nature of the material which has been worked on—dreadful idea to the romantic—in the schools.

"The child wants to learn." Good—we'll pretend it's true.

So far as informative reading is concerned the task of the librarian should then be excessively easy—lead him to the shelves, see that there are the right books on them, and the job is done. We do that, but the damning fact remains that he takes a good deal of persuading to read the informative literature as much as we should like him to do. Especially if the books in question necessitate anything remotely resembling that "girding up of the loins of the mind," which we are assured he performs gladly, and with nothing more to spur him on than a little coaxing, in the school. But there are the other books, the real books, the books which don't inform, but which appeal to the sense of the beautiful, the taste for fine things, finely said. That also must be in the main a matter of "air and sunshine," because Sir Arthur Quiller Couch's two lectures on children's reading are really a discourse on the theory that if the best is put before children,

children will like the best. There is perhaps more truth in this than in the other dictum—the child wants to learn.

Unfortunately, the experience of most of us is that in any art, people generally begin by liking the wrong things. Witness the "best seller," the most popular pictures, the furniture in the shops and houses of the people. Why is it cheaper to buy a piece of furniture or a piece of plate with a lot of bad and meaningless ornamentation on it, than a perfectly plain object, with nothing but its form and lines to recommend it? We know why, because tho it costs more to add the ornament, the sale will be so much larger that it can be produced at less cost. The simple object makes its appeal only to a cultivated taste, and the cultivated taste does not—save in exceptional instances, too few to count, come by nature. This is what I meant when I said that Sir Arthur writes about children's reading as tho it presented no problem. Those of us who are struggling with it may be forgiven if we regard his facile, easy sentimentalism about "air and sunshine," as though that were the end of the matter, with a certain impatience. We desire that boys and girls should not grow up without some direct acquaintance with the masterpieces of literature, that they should be able to recognize and appreciate style, construction, balance, and all the other factors which make a book a work of art, a kind of great living in itself, and an imperishable possession. And I know, and you know, that hundreds and thousands of boys—and particularly girls—do grow up without this acquaintanceship with the best. And the crux of the problem is that taste is useless which is merely a gesture; it must depend, if it is to be sincere, upon an unfettered choice. It is this which the library provides for. I don't say there need not be suggestion, but the suggestion will be the less likely to result in the opposite complex—an actual positive distaste for the best, because of the circumstances, the environment, and the person, in and by whom the suggestion was made—if it comes without any of the official prestige and

authority of the teacher, and in an environment which is that of the library.

Children "play up" to their teacher, it is natural that they should. Teachers like being "played up" to, especially when they don't recognize this tribute to their influence; it is entirely natural that they should. But children don't "play up" to the librarian. The librarian is there because the books and the room are there. If they are induced to dip into a book they wouldn't otherwise have taken from the shelves, it is because the "thrust" which sends them to the book appears to be no more than the suggestion or advice of a companion. The teacher to obtain the same result must wipe himself out—and that, if it is not impossible, is next door to it. There is a further consideration which is altogether lost sight of by most people, and is completely ignored in the contention, the mention of which brings me back to the beginning of this argument, viz.: that the teacher, *qua* teacher, is a better person to guide reading than the librarian. It is what one may call the sort of latent power residing in a representative collection of books which is always there.

A lending library of books—much more a box of books—is always fragmentary, because if it is well used, much of it, and in the case of children's collections, probably the greater part of it, will be in the hands of readers. That is why an adequate stationary collection, such as we have in our Young People's rooms, fulfils a purpose which no lending collection can. It gives the *physical* background of choice, just as the library which is not in the school, gives the proper psychological condition of unfettered choice. A choice made in such circumstances has a fuller content, means more, than when it partakes even in a small degree of the nature of Hobson's choice. Mere contact with an ordered series of books, covering, like a map, the fields of human thought and knowledge, is an education in itself, even when the selection by the reader is limited and narrow. I am convinced that no child can spend hours in a library of this kind without imbibing something of the "feel"

and glamour of a library, which is something different from a liking for books as individual things. It is the communal appeal of books, and carries with it a sense of their inter-relations, and the reciprocal bearing of one book on another. I rule out, as not in practical politics, the suggestion that every elementary school ought to have such a stationary collection, in fact a Young People's room of its own. Even if the finances would permit—and these rooms are expensive—it could not take the place of the Young People's room in the library, because part of the value of the latter lies in its being an introduction to the larger library, leading on to that as the child becomes the adult. It is not an end in itself, but the first link in a chain, the last link of which is the reference library. The rooms contain, in fact, a small collection of quick-reference books, including an encyclopaedia, dictionaries, Whitaker's almanac, and so forth; and every effort is made to accustom the children to refer to these. And they are doing that.

Well, to return to the point at issue, I am not making out a case for the librarian as against the teacher—far from it. I am rather answering the case of the teacher as against the librarian, and that only in order to clarify the position, as I see it. Practice has to all intents and purposes settled the question. There *are* the Young People's rooms in the libraries, there *are* lending libraries for children in the libraries, there *are* lending collections in the schools. It is likely that important developments will come along in all of them, but not fundamental changes. Librarians and teachers *are* co-operating, willingly and whole-heartedly, in this big business—not, unfortunately, big in scale at present, but big in its consequences—of the reading of children. The teacher can bring his influence—different from the librarian's, but not less valuable and necessary—through the medium of the libraries in the schools. It is complemented by the work of the librarian in the library.

We both suffer from paucity of books. And on that matter I have a proposal to put before you which I think has much

to recommend it, and I should like to see it tried in one or other of the towns which have installed a system of school libraries. It is that instead of the lending collections in the library overlapping the school libraries, as they now do, the two authorities, the Library committee and the Education committee, should cater for two distinct groups of children, so far as home-reading is concerned. Let us say that the school libraries should supply the books for *all* children up to eleven, or it might be twelve years of age, and the public library supply the books for children of thirteen and fourteen. There might be an agreement between the two authorities to spend so much per head each year on books for these two groups. This would not only ease the financial position by providing a larger choice for the same expenditure, but it would hand over to the teacher the home-reading of the younger children, where the guidance of the teacher would be most appropriate, and where "unfettered choice" would be of less consequence, because less capable of being effectively exercised (the Young People's room would function as a balancing factor), and it would leave to the librarian the older children, at the ages when they are beginning to enter on the threshold of self-determination and of adolescence, the period when the desire to "kick over the traces" is commencing to assert itself. If the traces are then judiciously lifted, there is no need for the kick.

The business of education is not to enable people to get on, but to enable them to know what to do with themselves when they are not getting on.—

The Archbishop of York.

The following incident occurred during the Christmas season in a New York bookshop: A woman customer was examining a copy of Leonardo the Florentine which was being highly praised by the little clerk, who had evidently just been imported for the rush. "Yes, but who was Leonardo?" the customer asked. The clerk stammered a moment, reached out for the book, looked at the fly-leaf, and then brightened. "Why," she said, "he was the Florentine." "Oh," said the customer. "Well, I'll take it."

Library Statistics and Platoon School

The loss of 82,529 . . . has come about largely thru the marked change in our work due to the introduction into our primary schools of the platoon system, whereby there are organized libraries in the schools, and the policy of the school board against supplementary reading in the high schools.

As to the platoon system, we stated in our 1926 report that we expected and looked forward to a long period of adjustment. In the meantime we have been watching the situation closely and during the past year have been noting the decreasing use of our branch children's rooms. This loss of almost 14,000 would not have been so serious, however, had it not been for the loss of 73,000 in the grade collection, occasioned by changing more of the traditional schools into the platoon type, and the very small gain in the existing platoon libraries due to their experimenting with the use of their books as tools in the school versus circulating them for home use. We are not yet prepared to state whether the amount of reading is actually less; in fact, we are inclined to believe that it is not and that what is done under the direct supervision of the teacher-librarian is of a better grade, but the serious fact remains that we are not training the children in the elementary schools in the "library habit" in which we, as public librarians, so earnestly believe. We are continuing to be enthusiastic over the use of our books in the schools under the teacher-librarians, but we deplore the fact that there is not more reading in the home. However, we are still within the probation period set by ourselves and we shall continue to hope that the excellent work being done in the schools will, in the course of events, make real readers and lovers of books of our children, and that they may be trained to employ their leisure in that best of fashions—with a good book.

The high school situation has naturally been one of disappointment because like any business we take satisfaction in seeing good use made of our stock; having purchased quantities of books at the teachers' requests for reading supplementary to the textbooks, we regret that they cannot be used. A loss of 60,000 so occasioned in our high schools, added to the 70,000 decrease in the grades, makes a huge loss in the schools which could not be overcome by the gain in the rest of the system. Understanding the big loss in circulation and the reasons for it, we therefore still maintain that we have had a good year.

—Report, Portland Library Association,
Portland, Oregon

Many times the reading of a book has made the future of a man.

—Emerson.

News from the Field

East

Eleanor Akin, Pratt '26, senior assistant at the 58th Street branch of the New York public library, has received an appointment to the staff of the Public library at Malden, Mass.

Mary A. Johnson, Pratt '17, has been released from her position as reference librarian of the Osterhour free library at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., to accept the position of head of the circulation department in the Ferguson library, Stamford, Conn.

Helen G. Cushing, N. Y. S. '19, has resigned her position as head cataloger of the University of New Hampshire library where she has been for nine years, to join the cataloging staff of the American Library in Paris, March 1.

Her successor is J. Doris Dart, graduate from McGill University and Pratt Institute library school, who goes to New Hampshire from the cataloging staff of the Yale University library.

The annual report of the Boston Athenaeum for 1928 gives a résumé of interesting things that occurred in connection with its library in the past year. The historical tablets placed on the building in March are interestingly described. The extension of the departments of European biography and history, and the increasing burden of repairs are made to furnish evidence of the age and extent of the usefulness of the Athenaeum. Reminiscences of other days with more or less connection with the Athenaeum, accompany the recital, as for instance, the references to the library by Governor Banks as the poverty of his youth is described when he "worked in a mill five days in the week and on Saturday walked ten miles to Boston to spend the day in the Athenaeum library and then walked ten miles back at night." Personal data concerning various gifts make interesting reading.

Dr G. E. Wire, for more than 30 years librarian of the Worcester County law library, Worcester, Mass., retired on pension the first of February. Dr Wire

was graduated from Northwestern University and from the New York State library school. He was connected with the Newberry library, Chicago, during the administration of Dr Poole and was in charge of the medical department. With the idea of increasing his usefulness in that capacity, he took a course and received a degree from Rush Medical College and later qualified for admittance to the Bar. For several years he was engaged in organization work, being known as an expert in classification and cataloging. He was well known among the librarians of 25 years ago and with his medicine case was always a welcome attendant at the meetings of the A. L. A.

The press of Worcester speaks in high terms of Dr Wire and his library service in that community.

Professor Henry B. Gardner, for 25 years president of the board of trustees, Public library, Providence, R. I., recently refused re-election to that position at the annual meeting. In addition to serving the longest term as president of any other man, his administration has had many excellent results. He has seen the book stock more than trebled. The circulation was increased by more than one million, the staff of the library from 22 to 66 members, the budget from \$40,000 to \$261,000, and the quarters from one building to nine branches, three sub-branches and 12 stations.

The intangible results of Mr Gardner's administration have been equally remarkable and evidence an exceptional amount of time and thought and careful planning.

Professor Gardner was on the faculty of Brown University from 1888-1929, advancing both in position and power from the beginning until his retirement. He is actively interested in local civic enterprises and has contributed to many economic journals.

Central Atlantic

Mark Kiley, assistant-librarian, Amherst College since 1924, became librarian of University Club library, New York, N. Y., February 1.

The Free public library at Nutley, N. J. has a collection of 16,385 v. and during 1928 it circulated 137,708 v. This was an increase of 25 per cent over the circulation of the preceding year.

Janie Henderson, Pratt '26, formerly librarian of the British Library of Information, has been made librarian of Lazar Frères, New York City.

Harriot R. Ewald, Pratt '21, formerly head of the circulation department in the Public library, Muncie, Indiana, has been appointed librarian of the high school connected with Saint Francis College in Brooklyn.

The report of the year's activity of the Mercantile library at Philadelphia was presented at the one hundred sixth annual meeting of the directors. There were 214,012 books loaned during 1928. There were 3756 members of the library at the end of 1928.

The James V. Brown library, Williamsport, Pa., reports a successful installation of a small collection of books in each engine house and at the police headquarters in that city. The books are to be changed at intervals and will consist of the best fiction and practical subjects obtainable.

The report of the Public library, Scranton, Pa., shows volumes in the library, 98,591; circulation, 226,822; registered borrowers, 17,380; receipts, \$41,628, of which \$36,200 was from taxation, \$3402 was unexpended balance; expenditures, books, periodicals, binding, \$7359; library service, \$17,118; janitor service, \$2280.

An extensive library of Russian music has been established in New York City by the American Society for Cultural Relations with Russia. The library already includes more than 400 mss and is open several hours daily for those engaged in musical research. Julius Mattfield, formerly connected with the New York public library, has been appointed librarian.

A beautiful memorial library in honor of the late B. F. Jones by his daughter, Mrs Elizabeth Horne, was dedicated at

Aliquippa, Pennsylvania, February 1. The event was made the occasion of four days celebration beginning with January 31 and extending thru February 4, giving opportunity to the special friends and different groups of the public to view and enjoy this wonderfully beautiful building with the greatest satisfaction.

The report of the Public library of Utica, N. Y., records a year of development in all directions: Volumes on the shelves, 113,721, 1.1 volumes per capita; circulation, 557,603, thru 26 agencies outside the main library. The exhibitions in the library's art galleries are noted as of special importance, not only in quantity and quality but in educational results.

Owen J. Dever, director of the Queens Borough public library, New York City, has succeeded in obtaining \$10,882 from the city comptroller for payment of salary raises for 1928 of the low-paid employees in the service of the library. The increases are effective as of April, 1928, and amount to an average of \$120 a year. There is still a large sum that was voted for the entire salary list, the withholding of which the trustees contend is unwarranted.

The Public library of Scarsdale, N. Y. has been given an original letter of George Washington, written to Governor Harrison, February 28, 1782. The letter was written from Philadelphia at a time when the affairs among the colonists were most discouraging. The tenor of the letter shows that the Commander-in-chief of the American forces in 1782 was no freer from criticism and intrigue by his selfish countrymen and officers than are his successors in these later days.

The report of the Public library, Syracuse, New York, has some interesting statistics. The library serves a population of 199,200 thru 72 agencies; number of books on the shelves, 161,502; number of volumes lent for home use, 1,061,854; registered borrowers, 61,539; receipts, \$169,107; maintenance, \$163,636, of which \$8439 was for binding, \$32,304 for books, \$79,952 for library

service; \$12,068 for janitor service. There are 44 persons listed on the library staff.

Central

Maxine Cromwell, Mich. '28, has been appointed cataloger at Oberlin College library.

Mrs Helen George Senour, N. Y. S. '23, formerly head of the order section, New York state library, has become head of the order department at Oberlin College library.

Blanche Williams, for some years connected with the City library, Racine, Wisconsin, has been made librarian of the Public library, DeKalb, Illinois.

Marion E. Sparks, Ill. '02, who had been librarian of the chemical department of the University of Illinois since 1904, died at her home in Urbana, February 12.

E. M. Pfutzenreuter, for some time city librarian of the Public library, Greeley, Colorado, has resigned that position to become librarian of the Indiana State Normal school at Terre Haute.

The annual report of the Public library, Janesville, Wisconsin, records a circulation of 128,292 v., an increase over previous years. The circulation of the library has doubled in the last ten years. Number of books on the shelves, 25,136; registered borrowers, 8477.

The report of the Public library of Youngstown, Ohio, records a circulation of 782,719 v. In the past two years, two new library buildings have been erected and two new branches added in rented quarters. A hospital department serving ten institutions is being organized and the third branch library is about ready for dedication.

The annual report of the Public library, Watertown, Wisconsin, shows a circulation of 76,181 v; card holders, 4671; books on the shelves, 15,498, 3169 pamphlets. About 258 volumes were added from the book endowment fund. Thirty story hours were held with an average attendance of 30. In-

ter-library loans were secured thru Milwaukee and Madison.

George E. McCormick, editor of the *Lima Star*, has been elected librarian of the Ohio state library by the library authorities to succeed C. B. Galbreath of Columbus, who has been serving as librarian for the last 18 months while the library operated without funds. Mr McCormick was formerly connected with the *Marion Star* when that paper was owned by the late President Harding and has been in the newspaper craft for 30 years.

The Court of Appeals in Hamilton County, Ohio, has confirmed the decision of a lower court enjoining the \$2,500,000 bond issue for the new public library for Cincinnati on the grounds that the laws under which it was provided for are unconstitutional. The case will probably be taken to the Supreme Court but there is not much hope that the decision will be reversed. There is an idea also of applying to the state legislature for some curative acts which will permit another bond issue for the library. This will mean two years' more delay, however.

The annual report of the Public library, Evansville, Indiana, calls attention to the crowded capacity of the Central library. The limit of expansion has been reached and the report says that relief is imperative. There were 716,815 v. issued to 92,293 registered borrowers, which latter is 35.5 per cent of the population to be served. Number of books on the shelves, 147,520. The extension department circulated 265,742 v. thru the various stations, hospitals, etc. The Vanderburgh County book wagon covered 7231 miles over its three routes. County circulation was 77,046 v.

The Public library, Elkhart, Indiana, reports a circulation of 203,607 v. from the library and its stations, a year's increase of more than 16,000. Nearly 20,000 books were lent outside the city limits. Number of books on the shelves, 43,785; pamphlets, 3154; number of borrowers, 13,829, 37 per cent of the population; receipts, \$34,551; expenditures, \$30,662, of which \$6000 was for repay-

ment of loans and \$11,853 for salaries. The librarian, Miss Corwin, repeats the statement in her former report that the library needs enlarged offices, work rooms and reference rooms. Efficiency is hampered because of crowded conditions.

Miss Gratia Countryman, who has finished 25 years of service as librarian of the Public library, Minneapolis, Minn., was tendered a public reception by the Business Women's club of Minneapolis on February 1. The staff of the Public library, on that occasion, presented Miss Countryman with a silver coffee service as a token of their regard. Miss Countryman has served the Public library of Minneapolis as a member of the staff for more years than 25, having progressed from a junior to assistant-librarian where she served Dr Hosmer as chief assistant during his happy years of service in that library. That she has preserved the esteem of her colleagues is fully shown in their recent bestowal.

The report of the Public library, Mansfield, Ohio, records an unusually large number of gifts in the past year. Bequests range from volumes on architecture, interior decorating and gardening to gifts of one book by citizens interested in the growth of the institution. The increased activity both in use and circulation is noted, thru the schools, particularly the high schools, children's department and the substation hospitals, fire houses, business companies, etc.

A number of displays of historical material contributed to the growing

interest in the library. Lectures by persons interested in local developments attracted large audiences. The circulation was more than 20,000 v., an increase of 2635.

South

Helen R. Duke, Pratt '28, has received the appointment of children's librarian of the Public library, Norfolk, Virginia.

An interesting if rather calamitous situation faces the State educational libraries of Arkansas. The latter state has enacted a law which prohibits any books on evolution being taught or made available to students within the state. Books coming in that classification have not been removed yet and this problem facing the heads of institutions creates a difficult situation that seems insurmountable.

The Rosenberg library at Galveston, Texas, has 80,000 volumes, a large and useful pamphlet collection and much of other printed material. Loans during the year were 102,873v., the first time in the history of the library that the 100,000 mark has been exceeded. The library is now 25 years old and has built up one of the best reference libraries in the Southwest. Half the loans of books for home use were to the children. Numerous much appreciated donations of good books and valuable material were received.

The financial support of the library is pronounced "entirely inadequate." The endowment left by the Rosenberg bequest remains the same but the money goes only about half as far in the administration of the library. The annual income is only about 50 cents per capita, making it necessary for the library to restrain its work and retrench in many ways. The library being entirely dependent on the generosity of the founder, the extension of its work is being outdistanced by many other libraries in the surrounding towns which have a larger amount of public money for the support of their libraries.

The building is greatly overcrowded. Only about 800 volumes were purchased last year and books on the shelves are being discarded from overuse to the ex-

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tent of more than half the accessions. The total expenditure last year was \$43,478.

West

The statistics of the Public library, Leavenworth, Kansas, for 1928 portray a useful activity: Volumes circulated, 111,142; number of borrowers, 5472; percentage of population, 32; books on the shelves, 35,265; receipts, \$15,115; expenditures, \$15,104. The report is pocket-size, offering a convenient form of reading during time of transportation.

Mrs Hortense B. Campbell has been made head of the reference department of the Public library, Wichita, Kansas, to succeed Katharine Terrill, resigned. Miss Terrill has been absent from Wichita on a year's leave of absence engaged in the work of the department of social relations, Congregational Education Society, New York City. She will continue her work there.

The report of the Public library, Wichita, Kansas, records a circulation of 47,815v. thru the main library, four stations and five school libraries in addition to the book-wagon and a supply of books to the children in 21 elementary schools. More than two-thirds of the circulation was from the main library.

A readers' advisory service was established during the year which has been greatly appreciated by library patrons. Instruction in the use of the library was given in the public schools from the sixth thru the ninth grade. Attendance at the story hour was 6220. The training course of 12 weeks prepared a group of six young women for the library service.

Wichita provides for its public library only 51 cents per capita, an insufficient sum to meet the demands for library service. Bequests and endowments are asked for to meet the needs in a technical department, fine arts department, addition to the library building, readers' advisory service, hospital libraries, school libraries, children's books and branch buildings.

Number of borrowers registered, 10,133; books on the shelves, 63,351; re-

ceipts, \$52,334; expenditures, salaries, \$31,172, books and periodicals, \$12,941; total expenditure, \$51,933.

Pacific

The annual report of the Library association of Portland, Oregon, gives the following interesting statistics: Population served, 286,024 thru 212 agencies consisting of the Main library, 17 branches, 15 in separate buildings, one municipal reference department, 18 stations, 144 schools, 12 fire companies, four bridges, six institutions, five hospitals, four reading rooms and service to the county thru book-wagons. Number of books on the shelves, 444,562, of which 146,279 are juvenile; volumes lent for home use, 2,662,764, of which 969,896 are juvenile; number of pictures and prints lent for home use, 26,646; number registered borrowers, 144,578, of which 45,811 are juvenile. Total receipts, \$357,344, of which \$10,742 is balance in the general fund and \$308,601 was received thru public tax; total disbursements, \$368,370—books and periodicals, \$69,187, library service, \$271,582, main-

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tenance service, \$20,377, total operating expenses, \$382,397.

The librarian reports an "exceedingly satisfactory year." The introduction of the platoon system, bringing organized libraries into the schools, together with the newly adopted policy against supplementary reading in the high school, reduced the circulation of books by 82,529v. See page 140.

Foreign

Cedric Chivers, who is reputed to have revolutionized the art of book binding died at his home in Bath, England, January 30. Mr Chivers appeared many times on programs of the A. L. A. in America, being introduced first at the World's Fair meeting at Chicago in 1893 by Sir Walter Besant. He served as mayor of Bath for six terms, a longer period than any other mayor.

The library building of the University of British Columbia has been enriched by a memorial window of nine panels, the gift of an anonymous donor. The center panel depicts the arms of the Dominion of Canada, and the others those of eight of the Canadian provinces. The arms of British Columbia have already been installed in the central Gothic window in the main reading room.

The library has installed additional accommodations for 30,000v. The book collection now exceeds 72,000v., with accommodations for 125,000.

Charles R. Sanderson, now living in London, lately appointed assistant-librarian to Dr George H. Locke, Public library of Toronto, comes well prepared for his work. He received the degrees B. A. and B. Sc. from the University of London where he afterwards lectured. He has also lectured at the several summer schools, 1924-27. He is a Fellow of the British Library Association. He assisted in the organization of the Bury public library, 1901-06. He did remarkable work in the Bolton public library in administration and extension, 1906-11. From 1911-14, he served as assistant-librarian in the John Rylands library, Manchester. From 1914 to date, he has served as librarian of the National Lib-

eral club, London, in its good general library, specially strong in history, economics and literature, where in addition to the ordinary library facilities, he has had charge of an inquiry service to provide information on any economic or political question, which service is greatly used by public speakers.

Mr Sanderson has an honorable war record. He was commissioned in April, 1915, and served with distinction in various quarters and positions, being demobilized in April, 1919, as a lieutenant.

He has passed his fortieth birthday and is young in spirit as well as years. He has a very pleasing personality, courteous manner and manners, with a keen sense of humor which, with excellent health, makes him a very pleasurable companion.

For sale—L. B. Borrowers' register (50001-55000) unused, in perfect condition, cost \$8.85, will sell for \$5. Free Public Library, East Orange, N. J.

Wanted—1854 Smithsonian Report. Address The Hertzberg Bindery, E. Grand Ave. at 22nd St., Des Moines, Iowa.

Wanted—A copy of Robert J. Burdette's Chimes from a jester's bells. Kent State Normal College Library, Kent, Ohio.

Wanted—Position now, by library school graduate, 9 years' experience, including organization and technical work. F. F. Hart, 131 So. Lake St., Ponca City, Okla.

For Sale—1,500 carefully selected and well mounted photographs, about eight by eleven inches, illustrating the history and art of Italy, France, Spain, The Netherlands and Germany; price \$200. Catalog on request. The owner, compelled to retire from active work by illness, offers these for immediate sale. Address Mrs William P. Hadwen, 212 Boulevard, Passaic, New Jersey